

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

ForeverEIU 2015

Publications of the EIU Alumni Association

Winter 2015

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Eastern Illinois University Alumni Association

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A Publication of the Eastern Illinois University Alumni Association



FOREVER EIU



The Education Issue

Eastern's history in education began when it opened its doors in 1895 as the Eastern State Normal School. Since that time, we can proudly boast tens of thousands of graduates who have taught in classrooms across the globe... educating millions.

VOLUME ONE: ISSUE TWO: WINTER 2015

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The Secret Garden

"I don't know if it still exists, but I loved the garden behind the Life Sciences Building."

- Ken Huebner

*The garden behind the Life Sciences Building is still there... and is as beautiful as ever.
We now affectionately call it "The Secret Garden."*

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What's new on social media?



John Fugate posted:

Picture from Blue Madness, EIU Athletics' annual Halloween trick-or-treat event held in Lantz Arena.



Megan Ivey said:

Is there a ranking for the campus that's most likely to have a stranger hold a door open for you? Pretty sure @eiu would win that, too.



Michael Clark said:

So thankful for @eiu ISEP program for preparing me to become a great teacher. *#pantherpride*

As most of you know, I'm not shy about my posts in support of Eastern Illinois University. I'm a proud alum, as well as a proud member of Sigma Pi Fraternity. My school and fraternity continue to play a major role in shaping who I am today. It's always fun to be back in Charleston seeing familiar faces and places. *#EIUfamily, #100YearsHomecomingEIU, #SigmaPi*



Mark Hudson says:

Regarding the alumni magazine that featured Pem Hall on the cover: I have never enjoyed an alumni publication more than that one. The articles, the pictures, and the overall tone were perfect. I am sure many alums were equally moved by it. Congrats to you and all who assisted in making this first-rate publication.

#FUTUREPANTHERS!



Jacob L.

shared:

Go EIU!!!! My little buddy showing his support!!!!



Andre Wes shared:

My daughter Barbie Marie sporting my EIU hat.

#FuturePanther

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email: forevereiumag@eiu.edu

**Eastern celebrated 100 years of homecoming
this past October.**

We hope you were able to celebrate with us.

**But, just in case you missed it, here are
a few memories from the weekend.**

To see more pictures, visit

<http://bit.ly/EIU2015>

**1915-
2015**



The Reach *of the* Education Degree from EIU

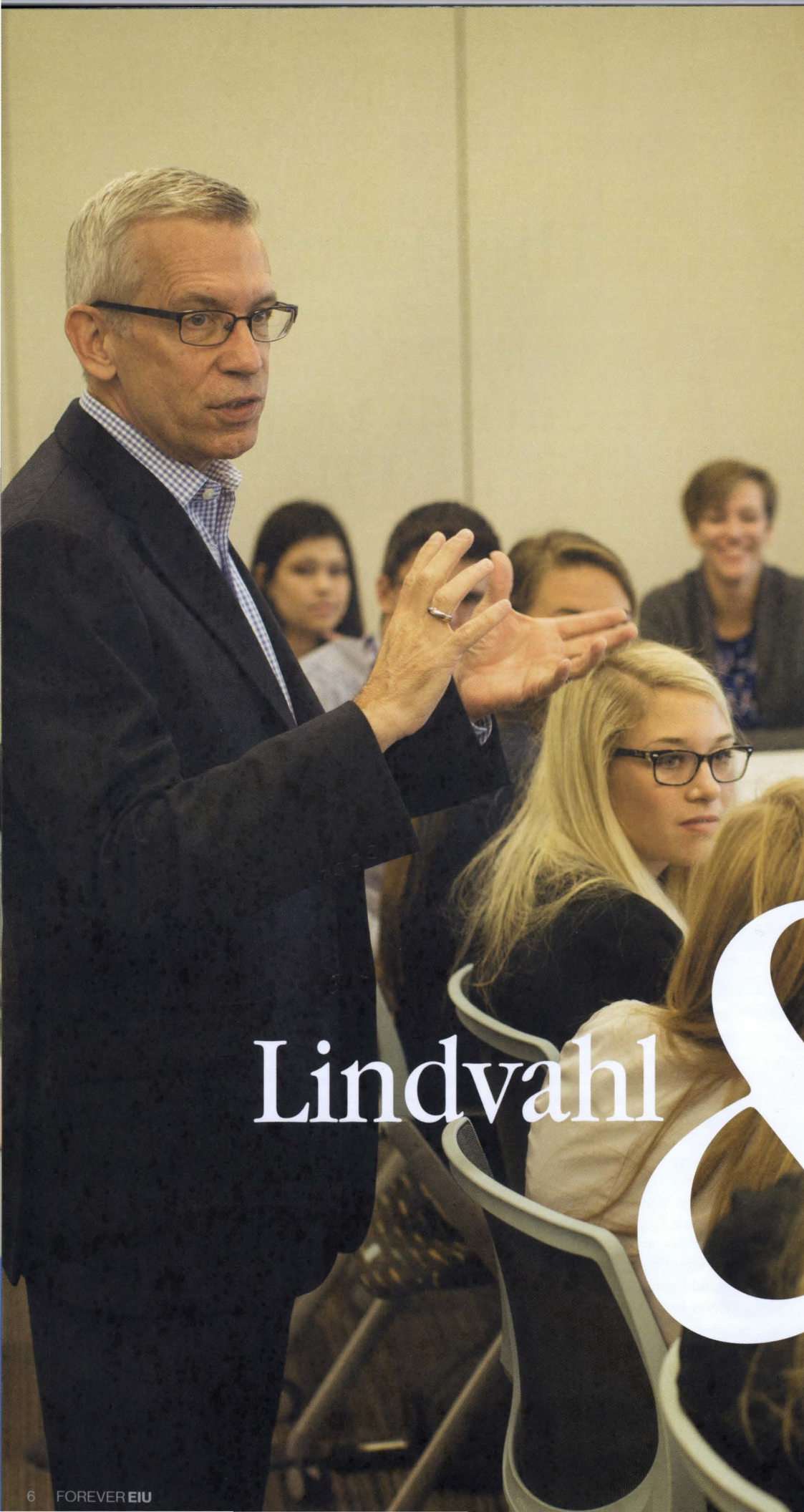
by
Diane Jackman, Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies
and
Doug Bower, Associate Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies

Eastern Illinois University has a proud history of inspiring undergraduate and graduate students to dream big as they acquire the knowledge and skills to become great educators and leaders.

With that said, remember that old commercial, “It’s not your father’s Buick?” That is so true about our teacher education programs today. EIU has continually monitored its programs to make sure that its graduates are prepared for the realities of today’s and tomorrow’s classrooms and students. Teacher education graduates are prepared to be global educators, engaging and meeting the needs of all students in their classrooms. While the majority of graduates continue to teach in Illinois, each year we find more of our graduates choose to take teaching positions in other states and even overseas. EIU-prepared teachers are found in every state and in many foreign countries.

In recent visits with numerous district superintendents and principals, we heard that EIU teacher education graduates are academically well-prepared both in their content and pedagogy. They know the current standards and can apply them in classroom settings. They use creative teaching methods to engage all students in their learning and, most importantly, they are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of children, their families and their communities. Superintendents and principals told us that when looking to hire the best prepared teachers for their schools, they look first to EIU.

In these same discussions, we were reminded of a major issue facing our state and country. There is a teacher shortage looming. This shortage is already impacting many districts, particularly in fields such as career and technical education, foreign language, special education, math and science. However, given low enrollments in teacher education programs across Illinois and the country, this shortage is expected to hit all fields within the next three to five years. This is where we need your help. If you know students who should consider teaching as a profession and encourage them to do so at EIU. There’s never been a better time to become a teacher!



Lindvahl

&

Lind



CRAIG AND BETH LINDVAHL HAVE DEVOTED THEIR LIVES TO EDUCATION AND ARE WORKING HARD TO BRING CHANGE TO OUR CURRENT EDUCATION SYSTEM.

Own What You Do

By Elizabeth Edwards '13
Photos by Jay Grabiec '08

Craig Lindvahl dreamed of playing and creating music, but instead, he stumbled into teaching — a stumble that transformed his life and the lives of countless students.

Craig graduated from EIU in 1979 after earning a degree in music education — at his father's request. In fact, most of Craig's family attended EIU, and Craig ended up in education, just like his brother.

While a student at Eastern, Craig met Beth ('82) at his hometown church in Taylorville, Ill. In that instant (Craig snaps his fingers for effect), Craig and Beth knew that they were meant for each other. Beth, too, planned to earn a degree in education and chose to attend EIU, as well. But Beth was a full three years behind him and while he waited for her to graduate, fate knocked and Craig took a temporary job that changed the course of their lives.

"It (the job) was just temporary, and I didn't figure on falling in love with the kids," said Craig, grinning. "So, I never 'escaped' because of the kids."

In fact, neither Craig nor Beth actually ever wanted to escape. Together, they dug in and began working toward a better way to educate countless students, each in different ways — Beth as a kindergarten teacher and Craig as a band director, and later as a film producer and guide to entrepreneurship. As the Lindvahls began to dig into their careers, one thing is clear, life for them has always been about their 'kids.'

The Small Town Band Director

Three years seemed a long time to put a career on hold. But, for Craig, it was worth it while he waited for Beth to graduate.

"I took a band-directing job in Teutopolis, (Ill.) even though I don't particularly like band music," he said. "I would much rather play than teach."



But Craig never approaches anything half-heartedly, and by the mid 1980s, still in Teutopolis, he started expanding his teaching duties to video and television production. And, he started challenging students in new and creative ways.

Craig didn't limit his focus on students in Teutopolis; he began to reach out to students in a much broader area. One of his first projects was a collaboration with 150 students from 10 different high schools who wrote lyrics to a composition by Craig. The final product was a music video, which ended up being nationally televised.

That was just the beginning. A subsequent student video project, called "Together We Can," emphasized that kids instinctively know how to get along, inferring that it is the adults in the world who need a little help with diplomacy. They sent the video to every country in the world.

Fifty countries responded, which earned Craig and his students an invitation to visit the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C. During their visit, they met the ambassador of the Marshall Islands, who asked the students to create a video (on location) to inform others about his country.

The timing ended up being perfect. Craig had just been awarded the Milken Educator Award and he used the money to take himself, his parents, Beth and eight students to the Marshall Islands to shoot and produce the informational video. The Peace Corps distributed the final product.

Craig notes, however, the trip was not without its challenges. Prior to the Milken award, funding was a concern. He and Beth were on the brink of borrowing the funds at an interest rate of 20 percent. Right before they left, their cameraman

canceled and their video tapes were faulty. And once they were on location – with a new cameraman – the camera quit working completely.

Of course, for Craig, these challenges make for perfect teaching moments. Struggles and obstacles teach students the fundamentals of how to "own their work," take responsibility for mistakes, think on their feet and, ultimately, fix the problem.

Craig's enthusiasm for his students and their adventures is contagious. It is easy to understand how the past 30 years has evolved into something much larger than he ever could have imagined. For him, "doing things that help make kids better people is like breathing."

Unfortunately, Craig's approach to education using trips, video projects and those key tools he uses to help students own what they do isn't the norm for most educators today.

"I didn't realize that band directors in little towns didn't do stuff like this," he said. "It seemed natural, and I thought there was something wrong with me."

Throughout his years as director, the band grew from 45 to 160 students. The growth in numbers comes, undoubtedly, from a combination of his dedication, commitment and relationships with his students. Clearly, he was doing something right.

The Kindergarten Teacher

As Craig works to transform the system in secondary education, Beth Lindvahl devotes her life to her kindergarten class in Teutopolis, molding and shaping young minds at the elementary level.

"Beth is with those kids every day. She loves them and is guiding them and doing the right things for them."

~Craig Lindvahl

In fact, many of the kids who end up in Craig's classes began in Beth's. While Craig is an extrovert, Beth is a listener, taking in each student's needs and concerns. Her caring demeanor and other-centered personality makes her perfect for the kindergarten setting.

Beth initially started as a home economics teacher, but fell in love with elementary education when she worked as a kindergarten aide in Teutopolis. Spending the bulk of her days with her kids, Beth believes "kindergarten is the best grade."

She sees each student as a "little sponge," and it is the job of the teacher to help them grow into the people they will become. "Hopefully, you give them at a good foundation so they can bloom and prosper," Beth said.

It isn't unusual for Beth to spend her days and nights preparing her classroom while Craig is traveling to speaking engagements, producing films or in the office himself.

"Beth has sacrificed every aspect of normal life," Craig said.

"The big deal is someone who simply loves their kids. It is easy to do what I am doing. Beth is with those kids every day. She loves them and is guiding them and doing the right things for them."



With 33 years in education and 26 years in her kindergarten class, Beth teaches within the system and stands by her husband's determination to change the system for their kids.

"It's not the people in education, it is the system. The system is all about mastering the subject, then we get out of school and mastering the subject is a little piece of success. It is not even the major piece."

~Craig Lindvahl

The Philosophy of "Owning It"

As Craig's circle of influence grew, he expanded his career to teach the well-known CEO class, Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities, in nearby Effingham, educating high school students in entrepreneurship. It is the perfect platform for Craig to impart his philosophy of having students "own their work."

Today, Craig serves as the director of the Midland Entrepreneurship Institute. As director, he is expanding the reach of the CEO program across the country with 28 programs to date.

He spends his days on the road, sharing his unique approach to teaching, emphasizing how the program educates students to own both their triumphs and their mistakes.

"It is a whole different approach to learning," he said.

Many students in the education system strive for the grade instead of learning for the sake of learning, he said, yet the problem in education isn't with the students.

"It's not the people in education, it is the system," he said. "The system is all about mastering the subject, then we get out of school and mastering the subject is a little piece of success. It is not even the major piece."

Craig's teaching philosophy follows closely to advice a good friend shared with him once: "Every teacher teaches the same thing, but not the subject. It is the subject that brings them together."

And he wants fellow educators to participate in his system of learning. "I want our students at every grade level to know the learning is theirs," he said.

When students start to take ownership in their creative work, they start to build confidence on work they've done and mistakes they have made, he said. The confidence will give them strength and coping skills.

It isn't surprising that for his efforts, in addition to the Milken Educator of the Year award, he serves on the Illinois State Board of Education.

The "Kids"

Truly, for both Craig and Beth, it is all about the kids. It is clear from listening to them speak about teaching that they see great potential in every

face. And that is the driving force behind their philosophy on teaching.

There isn't a day that goes by that Craig isn't emailing, getting lunch or chatting with his current and former students.

Beth feels the same. With no children of their own, the Lindvahls said their students are their "kids."

"It isn't unusual for our 'children' to come back," Beth said. "It is so rewarding that they want to come back and share their lives."

From film projects, to the Marshall Islands, to talking with ambassadors of other countries, the Lindvahls give their kids experiences beyond the small town, experiences that broaden their views of our world.

And, like many parents, they have made sacrifices in their own lives for the benefit of their kids.

On most days, Craig is out the door by 6 a.m. and back home around 10 p.m. Beth acclimated to his schedule by happily spending her days tweaking lesson plans and thinking about ways to improve her own traditional classroom setting.

Yet, both agree life has been a fantastic adventure filled with filmmaking presentations, trips across the country, the re-envisioning of education and, most importantly, remarkable students.

Beth smiled, "Our life together is odd. It always has been odd. It has never been normal." Not that the Lindvahls would change it for a second.

THE LINDVAHL'S CONNECTIONS

Meet just a few of the students impacted by the Lindvahls. These EIU alumni are convinced their lives would not be the same without them, and while each was influenced by the Lindvahls in different environments – from Beth's kindergarten class to Craig's multimedia, band or CEO classes – they all agree that the Lindvahls are more than teachers. They are mentors, friends and family.



Jessica Glaspy '13

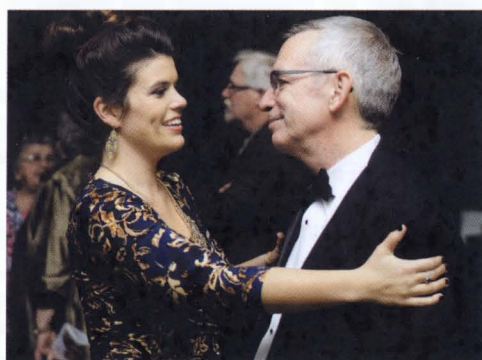
For Jessica Glaspy, Craig is like her "second dad." "My life would not be the same without him and his wife," Jessica said. "He changed me in a very positive way."



Her first experience with Craig was in his multimedia class during her junior and senior years of high school. "If he did not come into my life, I would be a mile behind in having faith in my creative abilities," she said. In his class, she was very introverted and unsure of her abilities, but Craig helped her out of her shell. "I do not believe I would have the confidence that I have now without his guidance," she said.

Her relationship with Craig continued after she graduated from high school. As a student at Eastern, Jessica started illustrating presentations for him. Those presentations evolved into Craig's novel, "Things You Wish You Knew Yesterday: And Other Stuff You'll Need to Know Tomorrow".

"He has never been confined by the classroom," Jessica said. As evidenced by her continued relationship with Craig (from watching movies, to dinner to phone chats), their relationship more closely resembles a father and daughter than teacher and student.



Gregg Lohman '98

Gregg Lohman remembers when he was a shy, quiet kid in fifth grade band and Craig took a special interest in him. "He sees the best in everyone and finds what you are good at," he said. For Lohman, it was the drums.



Not surprisingly, it was Craig who gave Gregg his first professional playing experience in Cincinnati, Ohio, with Christian artist Steve Green.

Now, Gregg is a drummer for the country music star, Kellie Pickler, and teaches music at Tennessee State University. Looking back on his life, Gregg said he owes a lot to Craig, who he described as an "another parent, another best friend."

Nothing made that more clear than when Lohman was involved in a horrible traffic accident outside of Louisville, Ky., in 2013. Craig drove over and visited him a handful of times.

"Mr. L and my brother would take 15-minute shifts sitting with me through the night to try and keep me calm," he said. At one point, Craig drove five hours down to visit for an hour before driving back home for an engagement he already planned. "So he drove 10 hours roundtrip to visit with me for just an hour," he said. "That is the kind of person he is."

Alexis Teichmiller '15

Craig and Beth hold a special place in Alexis Teichmiller's heart. Like many other students, she met Craig in his CEO class. It was at his urging that she pursued her interests in writing and fashion. With his guidance, she created a clothing consultation business and an online clothing store. Beth agreed to be one of her first clients.

Alexis traveled with Craig on the road to convince others of the value of the CEO program in communities across the state. The speaking engagements increased her confidence and her skill at connecting with an audience. As Alexis said, "The CEO program changed my life."

Craig's guidance influenced every part of her life. He was the first person to encourage her to be a writer. She will always remember his words of encouragement: "You can do anything you decide to do," he told her. "If you want to be a writer, then do it."

Andrew Crivilare '13

Andrew Crivilare successfully completed Craig's multimedia class in 2009. And, today, he still remembers his experience. "I think about that class every day," Andrew said.

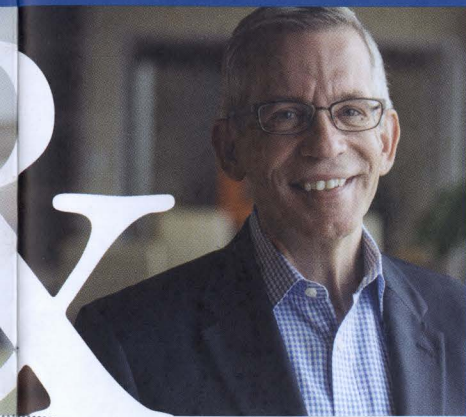


In that multimedia class, he did not simply learn technical skills, but life lessons as well.

Now an English teacher, Andrew tries to incorporate multimedia projects and Craig's teaching philosophy in his own classroom at Pleasant Plains High School.

For Andrew, it is more than expertise in the subject matter that sets teachers apart. It is their caring personalities and helpful demeanor that encourage students to succeed, which is exactly the Lindvahls' style.

One of his most distinctive memories is of Craig telling him that his writing talent exceeded Craig's expertise. "He told me he did not know what else to teach me, but he said if I had any questions, to just ask," Andrew said. It still strikes him how open and honest "L" was. Craig's honesty is something the young teacher tries to emulate in his own classroom.



Editor's note: Just prior to publication, the *ForeverEIU* staff learned that Craig Lindvahl was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer. In typical Lindvahl fashion, both Craig and Beth are approaching Craig's treatment aggressively, with great determination.

As we spoke with former students, we began to truly understand how gifted, influential and successful he is as an educator, friend and "parent" to so many.

In support of the Lindvahls, the community of Effingham has joined together to create ways for well-wishers to send notes of encouragement to Craig as he seeks treatment.

We, too, #StandWithLindvahl.

Lauren Pals '10

Like other students, Lauren Pals was lucky enough to have had Beth for kindergarten and Craig for band and the multimedia course.

While in the high school, Craig told Lauren that she should reconnect with Beth because he believed the two were similar. Today, a month doesn't go by without Lauren calling Beth to check in.

Both Lauren and Beth are other-centered people, always more worried about others' concerns than their own. "Beth is focused on other people before herself," Lauren said. The Lindvahls made her feel as if she was someone, especially Beth who reminds her that it is okay to be open and honest about her feelings. As a result, Lauren decided to go into special education at EIU.

Their influence remains with her today as Lauren teaches at Central Grade School in Effingham as a special education teacher. "They (the Lindvahls) are my mom and dad and that is what I want to be for my kids," she said.

Now, as an educator herself, she knows that Craig and Beth taught her the most important part of teaching.

"You are there for the kids," Lauren said. "That is what I learned from the Lindvahls."



Keith Sutterfield '14

Keith Sutterfield met Craig (and like others, affectionately calls him "L") in his multimedia class and was reintroduced later in the CEO class.

"L" always believed in his students," he said. In addition, he wanted his students to "be better people." Keith described Craig not as a teacher who believed in grades, but a mentor who challenged him to succeed. When "L" muttered the words, "This isn't your best work," Keith was more motivated to succeed than he had been with any bad grade or mark.

"L" treated us like adults," he said. "He didn't only teach us how to make a movie. He taught us life lessons."

Those lessons included taking responsibility or being passionate and driven. Keith applies "L's" lessons in his own life as an owner of a filmmaking business in Effingham. "L" taught me how to survive the real world," he said.



Allison Donsbach '13

Allison Donsbach was forever changed by Craig's CEO class. "He definitely teaches a high level of responsibility," she said.

His teaching challenged Allison to succeed not as his student, but as a human. "He pulls 100 percent out of his students," she said, and Allison was no exception.

"The CEO class and real-world experience pushed me to go beyond myself," she said. "It has helped me to be a better person and challenged me."

Craig's faith in her changed her life, as well as the lives of the other students in the program.

"I doubt that CEO would be the same without him," she said.



"I think about that class every day. He pulls 100 percent out of his students. Beth is focused on other people before herself. Don't give up on your passion; do what you got to do. They are my mom and dad and that's what I want to be for my kids."

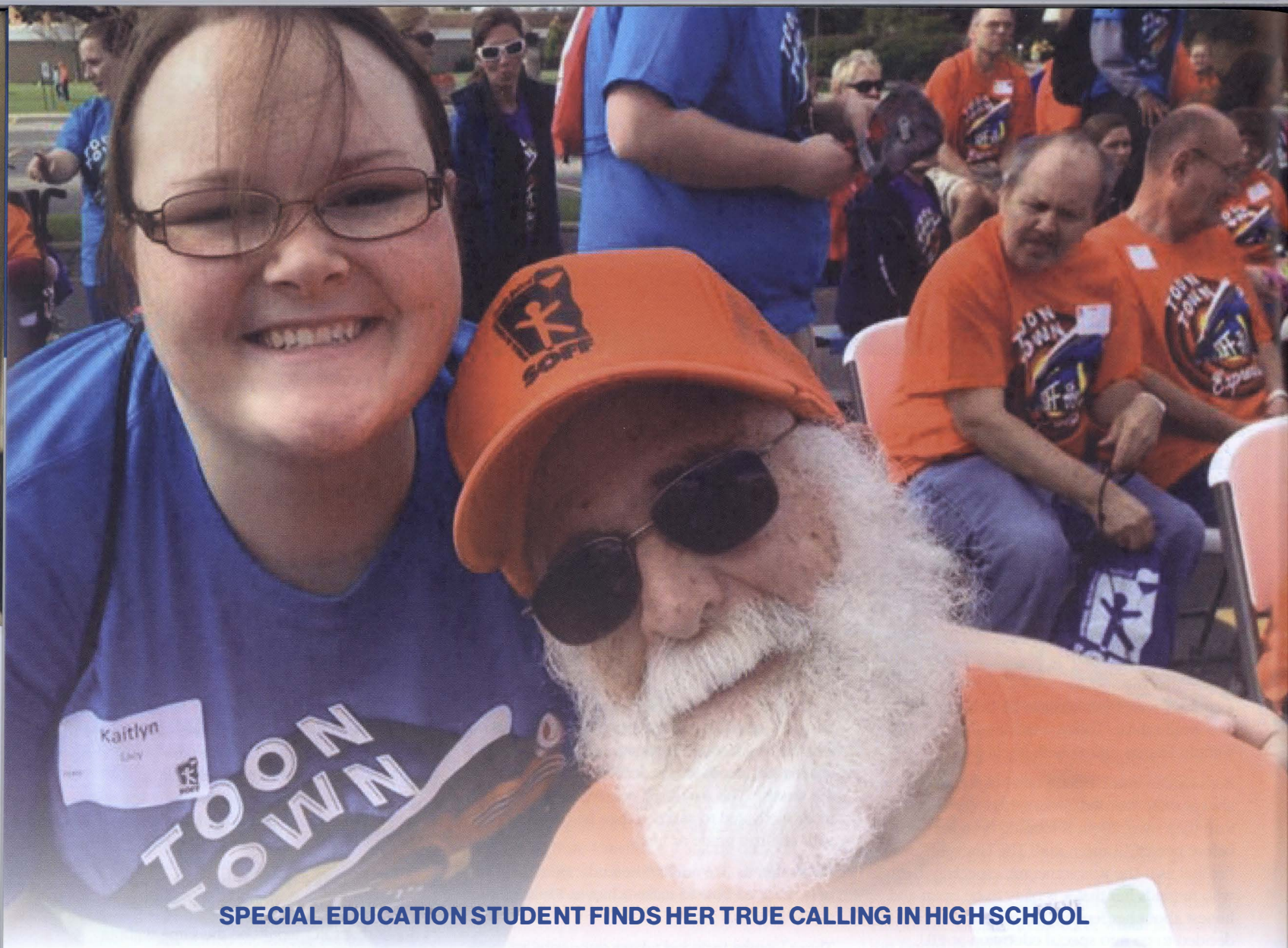
Andrew Koester '13

Andrew Koester described Craig's teaching as direct, making his students take ownership of their work, which made Andrew feel like more than a student. It made him feel like an adult.

For Andrew, Craig not only influenced his work ethic; he also taught him that having a passion for and a drive to do the work is key. "He taught me my drive," he said. "He taught me 'don't give up on your passion; do what you got to do.'"

Andrew did exactly that. At Eastern, he changed his focus from graphic design to ceramics. Many artists will choose graphic design as an option because they are more likely to get a job after graduation. Andrew switched because ceramics is what drives him forward as an artist. It isn't surprising that Andrew is now pursuing a master of fine arts degree and as a teaching assistant, using Craig's teaching style with his own students.





SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT FINDS HER TRUE CALLING IN HIGH SCHOOL

Defining Her Direction

By Elizabeth Edwards '13
Photos by Jay Grabiec '08

After helping a student with disabilities in an agricultural science class, Kaitlyn Lacy began to think the field of education was the place for her. Yet, it was through the urging of a beloved teacher that her direction became clear.

Kim Lietz '83, an EIU alumna and family and consumer sciences teacher, recognized Kaitlyn's natural teaching and guiding young minds and her patience for working with students with all types of abilities.

She urged Kaitlyn to work toward a degree in education at "her" school — Eastern Illinois University. Kim, a strong advocate for her alma mater, knows EIU is exceptional at preparing teachers, especially those who aspire to special education, like Kaitlyn. And, Kim was not alone in her urging.

Nine other EIU teaching alumni from Kim's hometown, Pinckneyville, Ill. — a town of roughly 5,000 residents — guided Kaitlyn in making her EIU decision.

These EIU advocates connected Kaitlyn to Kathlene Shank, the department chair of special education, who then recommended that Kaitlyn apply for the Illinois Special Education Tuition Waiver. The waiver provides students with free tuition as long as they agree to teach in the state.

This combination of alumni guidance, affordability and opportunity for a superior education led Kaitlyn to her decision to attend EIU — a decision that ignited three years of volunteer service that would change her life.

Kathlene described Kaitlyn, now a senior special education major, as the calm, steady student who gives all to everything. "It is never about her," she said. "It is always about someone else." Kathlene also

described Kaitlyn's determination to give back as contagious.

"Not only does she do it, she shows how much she loves doing it," Kathlene said. Kaitlyn shares her passion for volunteering and does it while maintaining a 4.0 GPA in the classroom, Kathlene said.

Kaitlyn's love for volunteering is shown in her involvement and leadership. As president of the registered student organization, Student Council for Exceptional Children, she helps provide her classmates with opportunities to interact with individuals with exceptionalities. The purpose of the organization is to promote these interactions and provide support to the national chapter, focused on enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Every Monday, she and her fellow students volunteer at the Charleston bowling alley with individuals from Camp New Hope, a camp that serves those with developmental and physical disabilities from age 8 and above in Mattoon, Ill. Kaitlyn, who is also a counselor for Camp New Hope, helps tally points, picks out shoes and bowls with the campers.

Her group is also involved with Special Olympics teams at Charleston Middle School and Charleston High School. They bought new uniforms and walked with the students in EIU's Homecoming parade.

From juggling obligations with Camp New Hope and Special Olympics, Kaitlyn also hosts game nights with the CTF Illinois group home, a non-profit organization that provides services to individuals with disabilities in Illinois. Yet, Kaitlyn's volunteer activities don't stop at the Student Council for Exceptional Children.

She is a member of Sigma Rho Epsilon, the honors special education fraternity, and Best Buddies, the organization that connects students with individuals with disabilities.

Not surprisingly, one of her favorite activities is her meetings with the Sigma Rho Epsilon's honorary member, Steve. (Pictured with Kaitlyn on the left.)

For nearly 20 years, Steve has been an honorary member through National Ties, a national organization that helps connect individuals with disabilities in the community.

Kaitlyn and the others from Sigma Rho Epsilon will take Steve to his favorite place for a fish sandwich (McDonalds) or spend time just hanging out and listening to Elton John with him.

These volunteer activities provide Kaitlyn with skills and experience only available outside the classroom. As she nears her last semester before graduation, Kaitlyn reminisced about how her decision to attend Eastern is defining her career

and giving her direction beyond the doors of the classroom.

"I came in and I didn't have much experience with people with disabilities," Kaitlyn said. "All these experiences between the practicum and outside experience, I am now totally comfortable because I feel like I have seen almost everything."

Classroom learning provided Kaitlyn with only one snapshot of the skills she will need as a teacher. Leisure activities such as bowling and playing games, helped her to understand her students on a personal level, she said.

Kaitlyn understands helping educate will not be her only job in her future classroom. "Learning is only half of it," she said. "The other half is creating the most normal life as possible for all your students."

Looking back, Kaitlyn can pinpoint when she knew she had made the right decision to enter the teaching profession. In a practicum class, she worked with students in the Treatment and Learning Center in Humboldt, Ill., a facility that serves students with behavioral and emotional disorders.

After an 11th grade student finished his ACT workbook, he gave the test to the teacher in the classroom to grade. Kaitlyn can't remember what happened next without crying. The teacher looked up at the student with tears in his eyes and told the student he scored a 31 on the math section.

The student asked if he could be an engineer one day. Kaitlyn remembers the teacher responding, "We could totally help you do that."

Kaitlyn explained that many times students with disabilities do not truly believe they can accomplish anything. "Even though he has a disability or

KAITLYN'S CONNECTIONS

Ten EIU alumni (all teachers in Pinckneyville, Ill.) helped Lacy find her way to EIU.



exceptionality, he can still do something with his life," she said. "It knocks that stereotype." In that moment, seeing the emotion on their faces, Kaitlyn knew she was in the right place.

One of Kaitlyn's professors, Christy Hooser, is fond of saying, "If you weren't supposed to be here, you wouldn't be." And, it looks like Kaitlyn is exactly where she belongs.





INJURIES DERAILED A PRO SOCCER CAREER FOR MICK GALESKI, BUT ONE OF EIU'S ALL-TIME ASSISTS LEADERS STILL HAS OTHERS' GOALS ON HIS MIND — THOSE OF THE STUDENT AND ATHLETES HE MENTORS.

Still Racking Up The Assists

by Dustin White '06
Photos by Jay Grabiec '08

It's a Tuesday afternoon in Champaign, Ill., and Edison Middle School is teeming with activity. It's the variety of borderline chaos found in pretty much any school building once the dismissal bell sounds — the collective energy of a few hundred kids whose enthusiasm to escape the classroom won't be dampened by a chilly, late-October drizzle waiting outside.

But amidst the pandemonium, one young man tracks down Mick Galeski '08, a sixth-year P.E. teacher weaving his way from his final class of the day to the downstairs office he shares with a colleague adjacent to the school's auxiliary gymnasium.

"Hey, I made the basketball team!" says this beaming eighth-grader as he skids to not-quite-a-stop in Mick's path.

"Great! I'm coming to one of your games, okay?" Mick calls back at the youth, who has already shifted gears and left the teacher in his dust to join classmates in a beeline for the aging

building's exits. Just as quickly, Mick is also moving again. After all, he's got a bit of paperwork to take care of before heading off to his other gig as an assistant coach for the playoff-bound Parkland College men's soccer team.

At face value, it doesn't strike you as a particularly powerful interaction between teacher and student, but once you get to know what makes Mick Galeski tick as an educator you'll realize this 10-second conversation may very well have made the Eastern Illinois University alumnus' entire day.

"I Wanted To Be Like Him"

Long before he was an Edison Comet – and even before he was leaving indelible marks on the EIU men's soccer program – Mick was a high school kid in Blackburn, England, facing the challenges most high school kids face at one time or another: Keeping his nose clean.

"I'd sometimes get mixed up in the wrong crowd," said Mick, who knew he wanted a future in soccer and had the physical tools to make it happen. "It was just trying to hang out with the cool kids and getting in trouble."

Luckily for Mick, somebody else had an eye on that future.

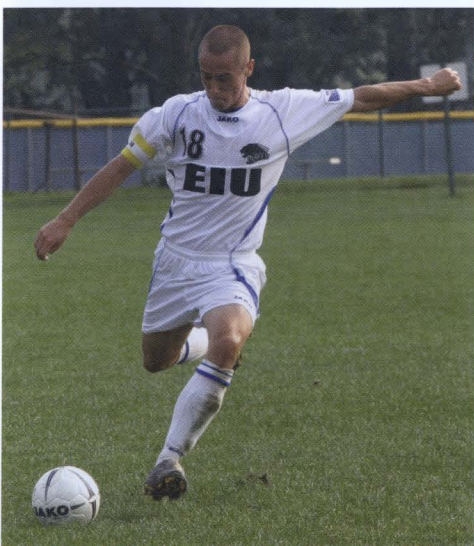
"My P.E. teacher in England, Steve Brecken, had a massive, massive influence on me," said Mick. "One day he kind of grabbed me by the collar and said, 'Look man, you've got a talent. This could take you somewhere. These kids are going nowhere the way they're going. You've got something that can push you.'"

"It was kind of an eye-opener. Every day he'd ask me about my games and make me feel like I was important to someone outside my family. That was kind of a light switch to me. I wanted to be like him."

So when a Champaign middle-schooler takes time to track Mick down and let him know he made the basketball team, you can see the roles have reversed; Mick is now playing Mr. Brecken's role, having shown the student he has a genuine interest in what's happening with the child's life.

"We just want to make kids feel special," Mick says, gesturing toward fellow P.E. teacher Roderick Hutchison, a fellow EIU alumnus who just happened to be hired at Edison at the exact same time. "If I can make someone else feel the way I felt when my teacher pulled me aside, then I feel like I've done my job, too."

"I want someone to come back to me in 20 years and say 'You know what? I did this because you told me I could do this.' To me, that's where the satisfaction of this job comes from. It's not the



summers or anything like that. It's any chance we get to influence (students) and they actually value it."

Once he got to Eastern – and we'll get to how that came to pass a bit later – Mick picked up some more excellent influences in his P.E. classes.

"People like Dr. (Kevin) Hussey and Dr. (Larry) Ankenbrand, they just made it so fun to learn about P.E. and how the body works," remembers Mick. "When you sit and talk to them, it's a different feel. You're on the same level. They're not talking at you, they're talking with you."

"I was an 18- or 19-year-old kid, and the enthusiasm Larry Ankenbrand had blew me out of the water. I wanted to be like him when I was teaching. With Dr. Hussey, his attention to detail is what I loved. That's what I take into my coaching. Especially when he was teaching badminton ... every little technique, he was spot-on with everything."

"Not One of Them Spoke About His School the Way He Did"

Before he was even aware of EIU's existence, Mick knew he wanted to come to the United States and play college soccer. A self-described "big traveler," he appeared headed to the University of New Mexico ... until the Eastern coach at the time, Adam Howarth, intervened.

"(Adam) flew to England and had dinner with me in Manchester," Mick recalled. "His family's from London, so he drove up and met me halfway. I'd never even heard of Eastern, but I really liked what he had to say about the college. I'd spoken to probably 50 different coaches, and not one of them spoke about his school the way he did."

"He told me all about the education program. He told me about the small tight-knit community, which is something I told him I wanted. He sold it to me. I told him 'I'll sign with you right now.'"

It's difficult to succinctly describe the career Mick ended up putting together at EIU, but it's a vast understatement to simply say it was an excellent one. A member of the starting lineup more or less from day one, he was honorable mention All-Missouri Valley Conference by his sophomore year and a first team all-conference player as a junior.

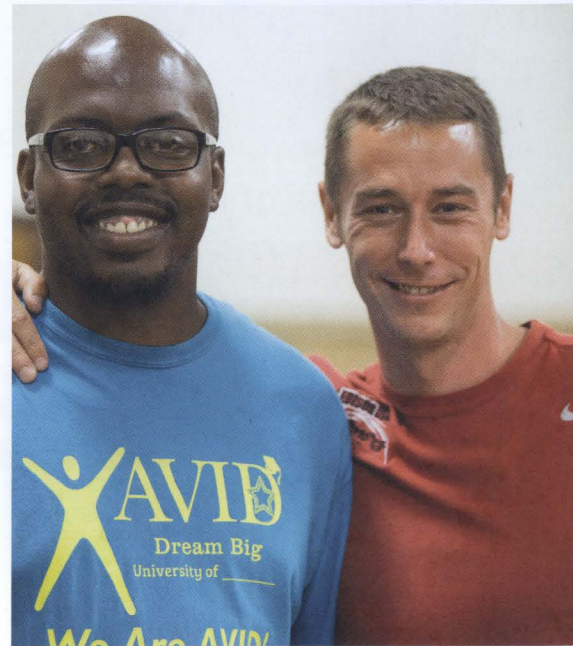
His senior season was another all-conference campaign and saw him earn second team honors on the NSCAA All-Midwest Region list. Mick was a three-time MVC offensive player of the week, an all-tournament selection in three different meets (including the MVC tournament for the second straight year), and a part of the TopDrawerSoccer.com National Team of the Week for Oct. 8, 2007.

Mick's senior year bio on Eastern's athletics website is 350 words of accomplishment after accomplishment, and the 11-7-1 and 12-6-3

records compiled by EIU during his final two seasons (2006 and 2007) are the only two winning campaigns the program has enjoyed since going 12-6-1 in 2000.

"I talk to alumni about those two years on the team, just the feeling and the connection we have from those two seasons," reminisces Mick. "No one expected it. It just kind of came out of nowhere."

"We always had the talent. It was just about the organization and getting everybody pointed in the right direction," Mick added, alluding to his coaching future. "That's what I took on."



"One of the Biggest Advocates For That School"

After Mick's freshman season, he and his teammates watched New Mexico play in the national championship match on television. You might think – after a 5-12-1 season in Charleston – that Mick might've wondered if he made the right call.

"I never once regretted this," Mick said. "Not one day in my life. It's obviously a lot different than what I'm used to, coming from England, but every day I was just excited to be there. I didn't want to do stupid things; I didn't want to ruin what I had. Everybody was just so nice."

"I had a great time. I'm probably one of the biggest advocates for that school. I literally had the best college experience possible. I've been the best man in two weddings of guys I met there. I lived with a guy up here in Champaign for four years that I met at Eastern."

And of course, if he hadn't gone to EIU he would've never known "Hutch," who has now been a colleague for a half-dozen years.



MICK'S CONNECTIONS

Dr. Ankenbrand's enthusiasm solidified Mick's career choice.



Dr. Hussey's influenced Mick's coaching style

"Hutch" met Mick while they were both students at EIU



"We were actually in all the P.E. classes together, so we knew each other," said Mick of Hutchison. "And my best friend was a good friend of his. It was crazy. I interviewed, got the job. Showed up the first day of work and he was sitting here in this office."

"Hutch," who by the same coincidental luck managed to observe Mick teaching kindergarten in the Charleston school district during his year as an EIU grad student, says maybe it's just destiny for them to keep crossing paths.

"I think maybe we were meant to be work colleagues," said "Hutch." "We didn't have to go through that period of getting to know each other; from day one, we've been on it. I've been trying

to sabotage him leaving Edison for the past year or so."

That's because Mick's wife, Katie, who is due to have the couple's first child in February, has designs on moving closer to Chicago, and his own soccer coaching aspirations dovetail with that plan.

"She's got no family down here but tons of family up north, and it's always kind of been a goal for me to go up there," said Mick, whose aim is to continue coaching at the college level.

"Teaching is What I Love, But Soccer Coaching Is My Religion"

Mick got his foot in the door of Champaign Unit 4 as an elementary classroom aide paired with a high school coaching gig at Central High School; he has been both a boys and girls coach at Central ... sometimes both. He'd already coached youth teams since he was 15 years old and knew if he couldn't play, he wanted to be coaching.

Serious back problems – he's had three surgeries – cost him any chances of playing professionally, and for Mick it was a very real possibility. The Colorado Rapids, a Major League Soccer franchise, were definitely interested, but the results of his team physical closed the door on that chapter in a hurry.

"I started (having pain) midway through our junior year," Mick said. "I just kind of played through it. Senior year it became a lot more of a pain and a problem. I can tell you right now I probably didn't play a game above 80 percent my entire senior year. It kind of got to a point where it hurt so much and for so long it just became normal and I didn't think about it.

"As soon as Colorado happened, I just put (a pro career) in the back of my mind. When you're

trying to play at an elite level at an elite speed, my body just couldn't hold up to it. They took me in for the physical and the doctor said 'I don't even know how you were playing. This is one of the most herniated discs I've ever seen.'"

The high school coaching has given way to Mick's college coaching duties at Parkland and the impending addition of a baby girl to his young family. He says it's bittersweet because he's loved every minute of the prep coaching, but also knew all along it was part of his desired career arc.

"The Parkland head coach, Mark Sikora, I've known him for years," Mick explained. "Three years ago I was out coaching my girls and he showed up at practice. He said 'Look, I need a little bit of help. I just need some new ideas, some new energy as far as our fitness preparation, our technical work. I've seen you coach; would this be something you're interested in?'"

"It was a tough decision because I loved my high school boys team so much. I don't think I've ever had another team quite like them. It was a family. For my career, though, it was good. Plus, it was an avenue for them to get into college. I wasn't leaving to just coach Parkland, but to also come back and bring them to college. The year before I got there, I think (Parkland) had maybe two local kids. Right now, we've got 12 from the Champaign-Urbana-Danville area."

That includes a trio of players who were under Mick's tutelage at Edison and Central; years later, he's having a similar impact on these kids that Mr. Brecken had on him and hopes to keep it up for a long time as a college coach.

"I'm getting a taste for it here at Parkland, just being able to go out and recruit," Mick said. "That's what I like to do. You go out and watch some kids, you recruit them, you try to find the best kids for your school and your team. Plus, it's soccer. I get to go out and watch soccer.

"And I can give these kids a chance to go to college. It's not necessarily about getting the best team; yes, we want the best team we can get, but at the same time we want to get the right kids to the college. I just love talking to people, so going out and talking to these kids and trying to influence them any way I can. I just love it.

"College coaching is what I want to do. Now, teaching is what I love to do, but soccer coaching is kind of like my religion. It's on another level for me. Yes, I love teaching and being around the kids and all that influence, but coaching is the career I want to head down. Is that going to happen? I don't know. If I can find an opportunity like this up in Chicago where I can teach and coach? That's a dream."

Editor's note: Just prior to publication, Mick was selected as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's (NSCAA) 2015 Assistant Coach of the Year for Junior Colleges.

"Ashley Bartlett bleeds blue for EIU. She will be attending in 2016. She had many schools to choose from and fell in love with EIU when she stepped foot on the softball field. Her first words were, 'I'm HOME!'"

She's looking so forward to being a Panther and continuing her education at a school she loves."

We were thrilled when Sheila Bartlett sent us this message and the photo of Ashley.

*We can't wait to see you on campus, Ashley!
You are #foreverEIU.*



Photo: RebeccaPortraits.com

#FUTUREPANTHER

A recruiting update from the Office of Admissions

By Chris Dearth, Director

**Want to tell your story to future Panthers?
Check out these recruiting opportunities for 2016.
We'd love for you to join us!**

Friday, July 8: EIU Open House

Monday, Oct. 10: EIU Open House

Friday, Nov. 11: EIU Open House

You can also send
#FUTUREPANTHERS directly to:

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU.
myeiu
www.eiu.edu/myeiu

MyEIU is a student's personal portal into EIU, allowing prospective students to learn about campus, including the university's latest news, events, and opportunities to visit, along with links to information matching their unique interests.

Hello from Charleston!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for continuing to spread positive messages across the state, and beyond, about EIU and all of the wonderful things that happen here. As I travel throughout the Midwest, I hear from school counselors, prospective students and parents about the many positive aspects of EIU. It is reassuring to know that the sense of EIU pride is alive and well.

And, there are a lot of things to be proud of heading into this recruitment season. Eastern has once again been ranked the No. 1 public comprehensive university in Illinois according to *U.S. News and World Report* (No. 5 in Midwest); and *Washington Monthly* named EIU as one of the top 12 schools in the nation for "Bang for your Buck."

Charleston, Ill., was rated the second safest college town in the country (Safewise.com), as well as the second most affordable college town in the nation (Business Insider).

Our students also give back, having performed more than 150,000 hours of community service and volunteer work.

The Office of Admissions has worked closely with University Marketing and Creative Services to redesign and repurpose various recruitment materials. We have also completed

a comprehensive communication plan to ensure that we are sending Eastern's message to more prospective students than ever before. And, the "MyEIU" portal for prospective students is seeing increased activity, thanks to many areas across campus who have worked hard to ensure it is more effective.

Our #futurepanther events have kicked off for 2015-2016 and we are seeing a large number of visitors to campus. Open House attendance is on track to surpass previous totals, and we have added additional opportunities for prospective and admitted students to attend. You can follow these events through social media and see the positive feedback your institution receives from the next class of outstanding students. Feel free to add your own memories to share with prospective students, as well.

In closing, many alumni ask me how they can help with recruitment efforts. The easiest way is to simply continue to wear your EIU Pride "on your sleeve." Keep spreading the word regarding everything that happens on a daily basis throughout campus and the community – it can be as easy as sharing EIU's Facebook status on your own page. Keep checking the EIU website for updates to see what our students are up to. And, please, keep recommending those outstanding Future Panthers!

Go Panthers!



EIU ALUMNA FOLLOWS HER GRANDMOTHER'S FOOTSTEPS IN THE VERY SAME CLASSROOM

A Family of Teachers

By Elizabeth Edwards '13
Photos by Jay Grabiec '08

Ali Hearn felt everyone knew but her. The senior elementary education major was waiting to hear the verdict of her student teaching placement. Student teaching, a requirement of all teacher education programs at Eastern Illinois University, gives practical experience to students in the school setting.

As Ali waited, she grew more anxious until the news finally arrived, leaving her with a mix of emotions from surprise, bewilderment and excitement.

"You won't believe it," said Ali, during a phone call with her father, Mike Hearn, as she shared the news. "I am student teaching in Oakland."

To Ali, the small Illinois town of Oakland with less than 1,000 residents and about a 20-mile drive from Charleston, is exactly where she wanted to student teach because she wouldn't be the first Hearn to teach at the school.

Her grandmother, Helen Hearn, taught at Lake Crest Elementary School in Oakland from 1968-1984, eventually retiring from the school.

Ali is only one member of the Hearn teaching legacy. She descends from a family of EIU teachers: her aunts, grandma and father all graduated with teaching degrees from Eastern. Her brother, Luke is also earning a teaching degree at EIU.

Ali's experience and family teaching legacy is another example of Eastern 120-year-old impact on creating outstanding educators throughout the state. It really isn't surprising that Ali Hearn would end up in the same school and even classroom as her grandmother.

Ali Hearn quickly realized she was teaching not only in the same school as her grandmother, but in the same classroom, too. ...“I looked around and wondered what it was like when she was there and how different it was.”



Her Grandmother's Classroom



Ali quickly realized she was teaching not only in the same school as her grandmother, but the same classroom, too. A custodian from the school even found a desk for her that was used during her grandmother's teaching days.

When she walked into the classroom for the first time, she described the experience as “surreal.”

“I looked around and wondered what it was like when she was there and how different it was,” Ali said, reflecting on her feelings as she started learning the ropes of teaching her fifth grade class.

Ali's grandmother is still remembered and cherished by the residents of Oakland, who confided their feelings about her grandmother's impact on the school. She often hears “your grandmother was the greatest woman in the world,” or “she was the best teacher, I loved her so much,” recalled Ali Hearn.

To Ali, it's inspiring to witness how one teacher can still make an impact even years after his/her death. Throughout her time with Lake Crest, Ali couldn't help but compare her time teaching with



her grandmother's years. While technology use in the classroom has changed and developed, Ali doesn't think other aspects of the classroom have changed. For example, she said her classroom size and her grandmother's size were about the same at 14 students.

“It's such a small class,” Ali said. “I have more time to be one-on-one with the ones that need it.”

Like her grandmother, Ali walks into her classroom with a positive attitude and she is greeted with laughter and smiles from her students. “My students make me laugh all day, every day, just by their comments,” she said.

The Hearn family philosophy of teaching continues through her: the most important aspect of teaching is how a teacher makes his/her students feel.

They have taught her to try to make every situation positive and not to lose her temper. “Anything that happens to you, your reaction is so much more important,” she said.

Beyond the Books

Initially, Ali wasn't sure she would enjoy teaching her fifth grade class, but now absolutely loves it.

Fifth grade is the age where teachers can joke around with their students. If students make mistakes, they can laugh at themselves, she said.

As she teaches, she continues to refine her methods of teaching. For example, she quickly learned that a textbook shouldn't be her only teaching tool.

“You can't just go straight from the book because it gets boring,” she said. Instead, Ali used fun sayings and acronyms such as “Mom doesn't complain much” to help her students learn the metric system.

“Even just being there for a short amount of time, I feel like I learned more than I ever did in a classroom,” Ali said.

From the hugs or student stories, she knows she is in the right place. While she hasn't noticed any major changes in her students, she does notice small changes every day that make her motivated

to walk through the doors of her grandmother's classroom.

“I feel lucky because I know people who are student teaching now who are counting down the days until they are done,” Ali said.

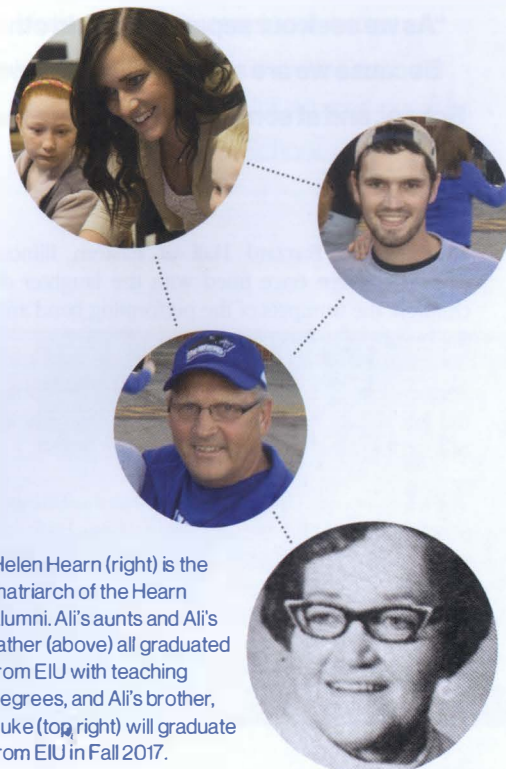
That's not the case for Ali. She loves the school, the atmosphere and the teachers. She's received compliments for her efforts from her students, her cooperating teacher and even the principal.

Ali Hearn graduated in May 2015 with an elementary education degree, and continues the Hearn teaching legacy.

With her brother Luke still at EIU, that teaching legacy doesn't seem to be stopping anytime soon.

To learn more about the education program at EIU, go to www.eiu.edu/ceps.

ALI'S CONNECTIONS



Helen Hearn (right) is the matriarch of the Hearn alumni. Ali's aunts and Ali's father (above) all graduated from EIU with teaching degrees, and Ali's brother, Luke (top right) will graduate from EIU in Fall 2017.



STUDENTS AND ALUMNI SAVE MEMORIES OF EIU'S LABORATORY SCHOOL BY BUILDING A MUSEUM

The Legacy of 'Doing'

By Elizabeth Edwards '13
Photos by Jay Grabiec '08

"As we seek our separate ways in other schools, other universities and other communities, we shall never be completely apart. Because we are among those who were 'The Lab School.' I am confident that we will treasure our memories of the Laboratory School, and at some quiet, very personal time in our future, will engage in well-earned nostalgia of those 'good old days' at the lab."

-Donald Gill, last principal of the lab school

The halls of Buzzard Hall at Eastern Illinois University were once filled with the laughter of children, the trumpets of the performing band and the booming voices of teachers.

Former President Robert G. Buzzard described the lab school in a yearbook as the "very heart of teaching."

The school opened its doors in 1899 as the Training School in Old Main, then moved to Blair Hall and was renamed the Model School. The school had an average of about 20 to 25 students per class from kindergarten to ninth grade. Children of EIU professors and Lab School teachers attended the school, as did children from the community.

Eastern's Laboratory School, an elementary school that existed on campus for 75 years was created to give student teachers an opportunity to 'learn by doing' as articulated by the famous philosopher, John Dewey – a teaching style which remains part of EIU's curriculum to this day.

The 'learn by doing' philosophy lives within EIU's mission of hands-on experience and it lives within the students, teachers and alumni of the Laboratory School – a legacy which 10 historical administration students were determined to save.

By building a permanent museum dedicated to the school, the students were able to keep the mission, method and memory of the school alive.

Saving Memories

The idea for a museum sprung from the LabSchool reunion in 2012, 40 years after the school's closing. The school remained at Buzzard Hall until 1974, when it was dissolved because of a state initiative to close laboratory schools at public universities. Instead, higher education was encouraged to send their student teachers to outside schools in their communities.

Diane Jackman, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, understood the need for saving the history of the Lab School and decided to reach out to the Historical Administration Program to build a museum.

Malgorzata Rymasz-Pawlowska, a history professor who directed the project, said the students understood how important the Lab School history is for the alumni. The Lab School was a competitive center of premier learning focused on interdisciplinary study and cutting edge methods in education. Well-established teachers were recruited from across the country, she said.

"This realization made the students hold themselves to higher standards because there were many people invested in the story being told," Rymasz-Pawlowska said.

Laura Russman, one of the historical administration graduate students, agreed. "We understood we were taking on a legacy," she said.

Planning of the museum began in the Fall 2014 class, History Museum Exhibit 1. Preliminary work began with researching ideas and themes. In the second half of the class, History Museum Exhibit 2, students assembled the exhibit and presented it to the public in April.

Creating the Methods

To build the exhibit, the students researched and compiled information and established a timeline. They then divided their class into design, education and marketing teams.

The design team created the physical exhibit, the education team compiled the information and the marketing team promoted the exhibit.

In handpicking the artifacts to display, the students reached out to the Lab School alumni, affectionately nicknamed the "lab rats."

"The alumni took an active role in what we were doing," said Brian Failing, a graduate student. "In the lab school, they had mentors. Now they were our mentors."

Diane Hall, graduate student and collection manager, said the team also met with campus representatives to search for objects. Discoveries

included an avocado file cabinet, a teacher's desk, a vase that a student made and a lunch ticket.

As they gathered the objects and built the exhibit, the students documented their endeavors through their blog, social media sites, website and a promotional film.

Throughout the project, the class debated how they would tell the story of the school after delving through the artifacts and hearing many stories.

"We heard about a lot of cherished times with Mrs. Virginia Tate, who would wear a Christmas tree dress that lit up around Christmas time," said Failing, reminiscing on the stories shared and how they tried to find objects or photos to match those stories.

Some objects, such as report cards and personal handwritten notes from teachers, provided insight into the lives of the "lab rats."

"From the handwritten and typed notes, we were able to learn a lot about the nature of their projects," Failing said. "The notes reflect how personal their experience was."

As students compiled their information and presented the story of the Lab School, they quickly realized how their actions modeled the school's philosophy.

"We are telling the story of the Lab School, but using the methods of the school," said Hall, commenting on how their project resembled the "style of doing."

A Legacy of Doing

The College of Education and Professional Studies continues in the spirit of the Lab School, Russman said.

"They don't have a lab school anymore, but student teachers still go out in the community and still employ a lot of the same tactics," she said.

The legacy of doing also carries on in the graduate students' work as they prepare for careers in museums.

"This museum is a teaching museum much like the Lab School was for student teachers," Failing said. "This is a teaching tool for our program."

Hall, Russman and Failing love telling stories of the past, connecting with the community and searching for objects – skills that grew from their interactions with the alumni and the creation of the museum.

"I enjoy getting to know the community in which a museum is in," Failing said. "Not only the history of the community, but the people, what makes the community what it is, and being able to connect with the community and tell those stories."

Students understand the legacy of the school lives on through their museum. "Museums create a personal connection when done well," Hall said.

To view the museum by appointment, contact the CEPS Department at 217-581-2524.

Every year, students in the Historical Administration Program create an exhibit to gain experience in the art of researching, designing and promoting a museum exhibit. The Lab School museum is the first permanent exhibit created by the program. The museum and its permanent exhibit, called Mission, Method, and Memory, is housed in remodeled administrative space on the first floor of Buzzard Hall, an area donated by alumni of the Lab School.





HOW ONE VENOMOUS SPIDER MADE ITS MARK ON EDUCATION AT EASTERN

“Arachnis Deathicus”

By Vicki Shaw Woodard '81
Images courtesy of Dann Gire '74, '75

It was the sort of encounter that could inspire a movie.

During what was supposed to be routine maintenance, Jim Gire '53, '68, a professional pest exterminator, discovered brown recluse spiders living in the utility tunnels underneath Eastern Illinois University's Laboratory School. Not just a few. Not dozens. Not even a hundred or so.

“There were thousands and thousands of them,” said Gire's son Dann '74, '75. “Dad knew his arachnids; he knew his stuff. And when he found these, he knew exactly what they were.”

At 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 19, 1967, news of the discovery was publicly announced and the Lab School was closed three days before the official end of the quarter “to permit a spider eradication program,” reported Charleston's Daily Times. Then-principal Don Gill was quoted as saying that the early dismissal would enable a “professional extermination firm to promptly begin a treatment program so that summer quarter classes can start as scheduled.

“There is no immediate danger,” Gill added.

Reflecting back, Dann Gire said it was astonishing to him that no one was hurt or killed.

“I'm convinced that numerous folks had to have been bitten but because the origin (of the bites) was unknown, and because the brown recluse spider was believed to be a Southern state arachnid seldom seen in Illinois, they just didn't know what they were dealing with.”

Jim Gire's name had made the news two years earlier. In the July 28, 1965, issue of the Eastern News, it was reported that the local teacher/pest control operator had found a single brown recluse spider underneath a porch of a Charleston home. Garland Riegel, a professor of zoology at EIU at the time,

said that “there is no reason for alarm at the presence of this spider in our area, but the fact it can be found here should be known so that unexplained symptoms of spider bite in children can be treated by physicians.”

Having grown up in a home with a basement full of spiders – unfortunately (for the spiders), most of them “pickled” or mounted on slides – Dann Gire became somewhat knowledgeable about the brown recluse “with venom more toxic than that of a black widow.”

“The bite of the brown recluse, which is 10 times more dangerous than the tarantula, can have some nasty results,” Gire said. “The good news is that, as their name implies, they hide in the shadows and darkness, avoiding human contact where possible. I consider them the ninjas of the spider world.”

News of the discovery at the Lab School thrust Jim Gire's name into the national spotlight. His father, Dann Gire recalled, appeared to take the attention in stride. He never really talked about all the recognition.

“Dad took after his father, the stoic German,” Gire continued. “I find it interesting that, while he was interested in being a member of the Charleston Toastmasters Club, he wasn't an emotional sharer.”

Jim Gire, who died in March 2015 at the age of 87, always showed an interest in the sciences. In his obituary, the family wrote that “Jim met his future bride, Donna Lee Morgan, when she worked at Covalt's Drug Store on the square... He entered Covalt's asking for the latest edition of Scientific American magazine, but kept returning to Covalt's for other reasons.”

The couple married on July 17, 1950, and from that union came three children – sons Dann and Donald, and a daughter, Kim.

In 1953, Gire graduated from EIU after having earned his bachelor's degree in zoology. He taught for three years at Martinsville High School before teaching science at Charleston High School for eight years. Following in his own father's footsteps, Gire, for a time, simultaneously operated a pest control company – Gire Protective Service – specializing in pest and varmint control, termite inspections plus radon and radiation testing.

Recluse Spiders Close High School



tion Begins at High School

Classes Not Held Today; Exterminators Start Work

The doors of Mattoon High School are locked today and only exterminators walk its halls after the building was found to be "saturated" with Brown Recluse spiders.

The extermination of the poisonous spider, found by the hundreds, if not by the thousands in the structure this week, forced the closing of the school today.

Dr. John Wargo, superintendent of Mattoon Community No. 2, said that tentatively the school would also be closed on Monday.

"Monday closing," he said, "depends on the speed of the

"I sure wasn't expecting to find the first one in my room," he observed. "The only one we had here was pickled."

Apparently the major infestation of the spiders has occurred in crawl spaces beneath the building. The spiders feed on termites ridding old concrete forms left after construction.

Murphy indicated that the occurrence of the spider here was almost identical to that in the EIU laboratory school.

Gire, who has been hired to do the exterminating, said the process will begin in classrooms and move to other parts of the building.

The typical reaction in man following a bite is killed tissue at the site of the bite, Gire said.

Gire noted that the spider will in most instances bite only when physically attacked.

The victim of the bite Gire observed, may not be aware of being bitten for two or three hours, or a painful reaction may occur immediately. A stinging sensation is usually followed by intense pain.

Later blistering of the bite area is followed by the deterioration of the flesh affected by the venom.

Healing of the bite takes place "quite slowly," Gire ob-



Spider Infests High School

This picture of a live Brown Recluse spider was taken by David Murphy, the MHS biology instructor who discovered one of the venomous creatures in the school building.

"I don't know why he decided to quit teaching," Dann Gire said, noting that the company became his father's main focus after leaving the classroom. "I suppose he felt he was a better pest control operator than he was a teacher."

Jim Gire did return to the classroom in the mid-sixties, but as a student, not as a teacher. Determined to earn his master's degree in guidance and counseling, he began work on his master's thesis in November 1966, just months prior to the Lab School discovery. Ironically, his thesis included his early research on the brown recluse spider.

In addition to his other interests, Gire served as Coles County's civil defense director during the early 1960s and the Cuban Missile Crisis. He taught classes on Cold War survival and how to use Geiger counters to detect radiation from atomic bombs. His family wrote that, while building a house south of Charleston, Gire installed one of the county's first fall-out shelters, "a thick, concrete-encased room that became an academic tour destination for students in his CHS science classes."

"He also carried around this hand-held radiological defense monitor," Dann Gire recalled. "As a kid, I thought how neat it would be if one of Dad's live specimens somehow got a hold of some radiographic material and then became a radioactive spider. Then, if it bit me, I could be Spiderman!"



As a child growing up outside the city limits, Dann Gire learned how to entertain himself via solitary pursuits. He honed his writing skills and learned the value of an imagination. Since beginning work at the Daily Herald in 1975, he has held positions of government reporter, crime reporter, Metro reporter and film critic – a role he's held for 32 years. He holds bachelor and master degrees in communications from Eastern, and also served as sports editor, photography editor and co-editor-in-chief of the school's newspaper, the Daily Eastern News.

Yikes! Did I just See a BROWN RECLUSE?!

The brown recluse spider, sometimes referred to as the violin or fiddleback spider because of the violin-shaped marking on its dorsum, is one of the more poisonous spiders in Illinois.

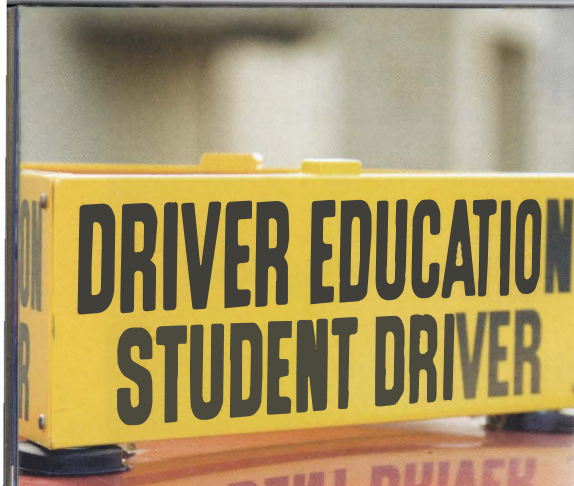
Brown recluse spiders dwell in dark, sheltered places. Webs tend to appear disorganized and are built most commonly near ground level. The spider is a hunter. The web is not intended to catch prey. Instead, the spider roams around, searching for prey.

The brown recluse is shy and rarely bites unless provoked. Bites usually go unnoticed until effects manifest a few hours later. Most bites become red and fade away, but in uncommon cases necrosis or tissue damage can occur. A medical professional should be consulted if there are medical concerns.

Before the rumors begin, let us assure our readers that colonies of brown recluse spiders – or any other spider species for that matter – no longer saturate the underbelly of Eastern's campus.

According to Richard Staley, EIU's pest control officer since the mid '90s, virtually every building on the EIU campus is routinely treated for pests every six months. Certain areas, including food service areas and Lantz Arena, are treated every four months while students are away from campus on break.

Staley acknowledges that one might see the occasional, lone "house" spider climbing a wall, especially in the campus' older buildings that lack tighter insulation. "But I've never seen a brown recluse on campus, except, maybe, in a specimen jar in the Life Sciences building," he said.



IF YOU DRIVE A CAR IN ILLINOIS, THE ODDS THAT YOU LEARNED TO DRIVE FROM AN EIU ALUMNUS ARE PRETTY HIGH.

EIU Keeps its Eyes (or, rather, its students) on the Road

By Vicki Shaw Woodard '81

Photos of Richard Cavanaugh with Driver's Ed students by Jay Grabiec '08

A vast number of Illinois drivers share a connection with Eastern Illinois University that they don't even realize.

"Few universities in the state still offer driver education and traffic safety courses," said Richard Cavanaugh, EIU professor of health studies. "I'm proud to say that we're one of three (the others being Chicago State and Northern) still recognizing this as a viable area of education."

"Still" is the key word. EIU has offered a safety and driver education minor for teacher certification since the 1950s and continues to do so, even though many other universities are "out of the business," so to speak.

"That's 60 years of teaching people how to teach other folks to drive," Cavanaugh said. "Basically, it's a teacher education minor that allows our students to teach driver education either in public schools or commercial driving schools.

"There's no telling how many thousands of individuals have learned to drive over the years as a result of our students teaching them!" he added.

According to Cavanaugh, most program participants are secondary education majors already training to teach either physical and/or health education. The ability to teach driver education becomes another skill that they can bring to the classroom.

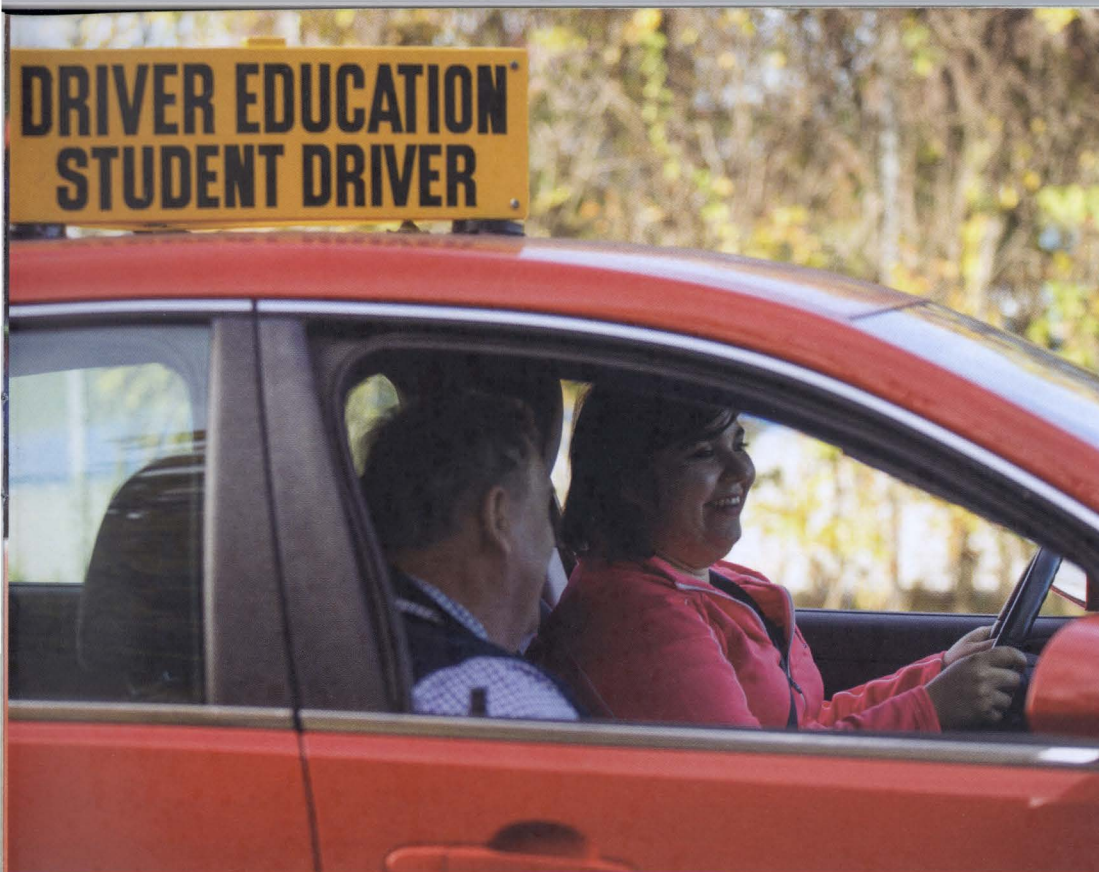
Even if they never thought much about teaching driver education, students are often hooked once they enroll in the junior-level course, "Advanced Driving Maneuvers," designed to teach emergency procedures and evasive actions and to help students better understand their capabilities and limitations as drivers and the capabilities and limitations of the vehicles they drive.

"It's a fun class, yet challenging, so when our students take it, they begin considering driver education as a useful minor, as well as something they might enjoy teaching as a career," Cavanaugh added. "They frequently develop a true passion for what they are teaching, especially when they

"Reach your destination safely, efficiently, responsibly and enjoyably. You may have to drive from one point to another, but there's nothing wrong with enjoying the trip."

— Richard Cavanaugh

begin realizing that driving is an important skill that most of their students will be using for the rest of their lives."



EIU trains about 15 driver education teachers annually. That number has ranged from between 30 to 45 in years past.

Courses for the driver education minor are designed to provide prospective teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully conduct classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction, provide a safe learning environment while doing so and evaluate new driver performance.

Trainees must also learn how to teach young drivers how to use driving simulators; however, according to Cavanaugh, most high schools have gotten rid of simulators in the classroom. "We still have to teach (our students) how to teach them, though," he added. "After all, simulators are still used in a variety of training approaches such as commercial airline pilots and truck drivers."

As their training progresses, each EIU student is assigned an individual who truly wants to learn how to drive. Frequently, Cavanaugh said, these are international students attending Eastern who never had the opportunity to learn to drive in their home country. Others are adults over the age of 18 who, for whatever reason, never learned how to drive.

"Often those are folks from the larger metropolitan areas where public transportation is so readily available that there is no need for them to learn how to drive," Cavanaugh said. Others have more

personal reasons, like the retired teacher who had suffered a minor stroke and still had the capability to drive, but wanted to work on her reflexes.

"I often have more applicants wanting to learn how to drive than I have teachers," Cavanaugh said. (Currently, EIU trains about 15 driver education teachers annually. That number has ranged from between 30 to 45 in years past.)

Trainees are evaluated in two ways. Video cameras mounted in each of the training cars capture teaching sessions and allow the trainees, who sit in the front seat passenger side, the opportunity to review and provide their own critiques. In other instances, Cavanaugh (or one of EIU's other driver education faculty) sit in the back seat and observes.

The first method is easier on the trainee.

"If they go by themselves, their attention is more on the person in the driver's seat," Cavanaugh said. "It's like with so many other things. I think most of us do better when we don't have someone watching over our shoulder the entire time."

Trainees are taught that a lot of praise and positive reinforcement go a long way toward teaching someone to drive. They are taught to talk through potential situations with their students before actually getting on the road.

"And," Cavanaugh added, "we teach our teachers to expect the unexpected. We tell them, 'You need to be prepared to be surprised.'"

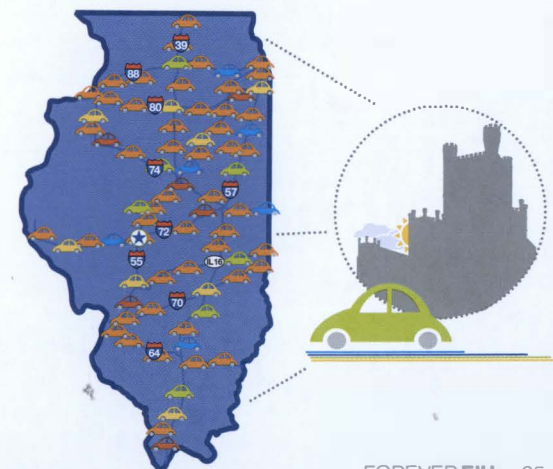
He recalled a specific instance in which, on a hunch, he advised a trainee preparing to take a student out on the road to "be prepared to

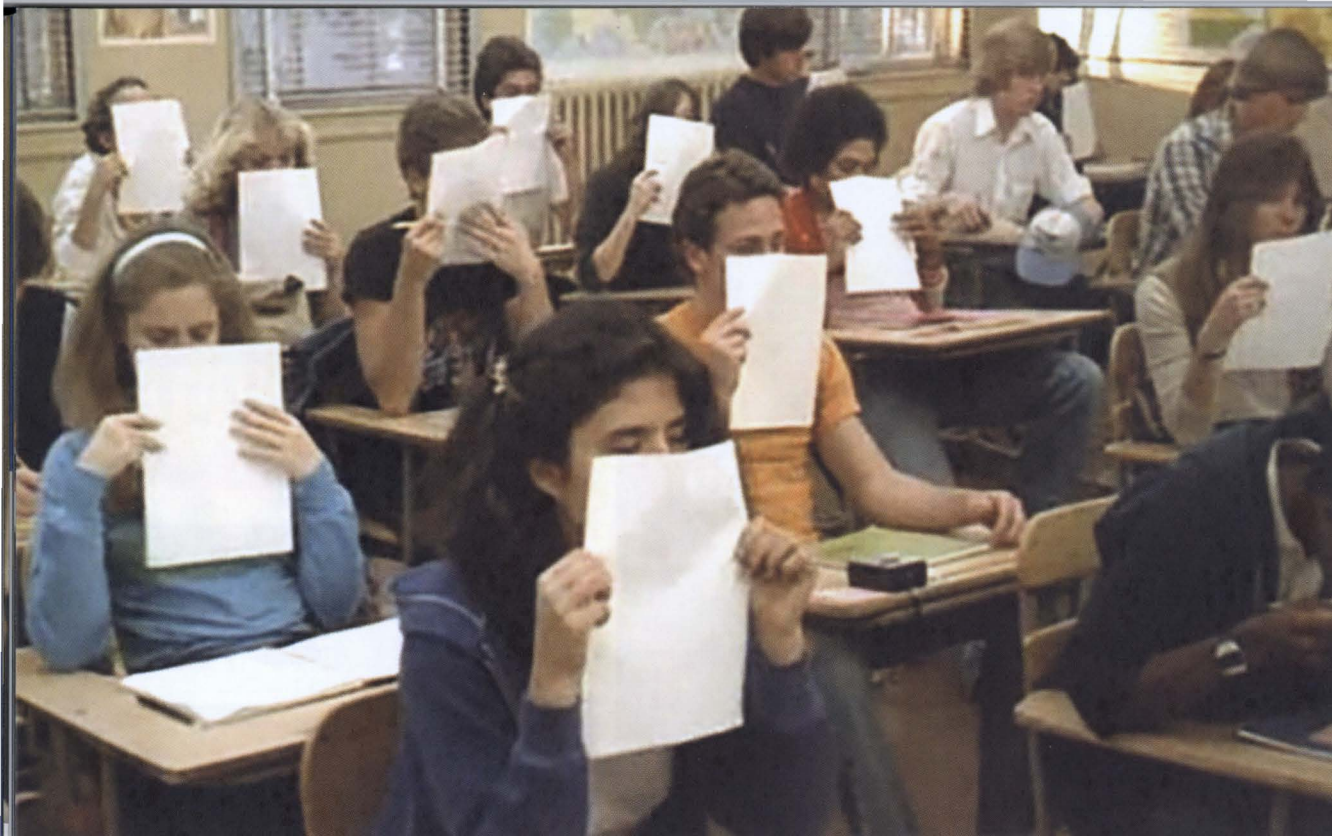
teach off-road recovery." Sure enough, as the car traveled south on Illinois 130 near Charleston, a north-bound car in the approaching lane scared the driver, causing her to go off on to the right-hand shoulder.

"(The trainee) calmly talked the driver through it, telling her to stop accelerating and, once the car had slowed, steer the car back on to the pavement," Cavanaugh said.

Sometimes to keep the trainees on their toes, Cavanaugh, himself, becomes the "student driver." Then, when a situation safely presents itself, he'll insert a few maneuvers to enforce his "expect the unexpected" advice. "I might drift off the road, make a sloppy turn or two... I'm not trying to endanger us, just keep (the trainees) on track. I want to keep them ready to grab the steering wheel, just in case."

DRIVER'S ED CONNECTIONS





© Universal Pictures: Fast Times at Ridgemont High

THINGS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT STILL SEE IN TODAY'S CLASSROOM

Remember the Mimeograph?

By Daphne Griffin

Classroom technology is always evolving to enrich the lives of students. There are some things, though, you just wish today's students could still experience.

Ah, the mimeograph (or ditto machine) - the distinctive sound of copies being made (at a glacial pace) with that hand crank, trash cans overflowing with spent tissue paper, purple ink, and that smell.

Admit it. Every time you see purple ink you have some strange urge to see what it smells like. (Sorry, no smells here.)

You'll probably also remember dusting erasers for extra credit, fear of being paddled in front of class for either bad behavior or bad grades, and recess, where tether-ball stations lined the blacktop like sentinels.

Over the years, classrooms have changed, as has the way teachers teach and students learn. Access to information that was once limited to libraries is now at your fingertips.

Technology will always propel generations forward, but sometimes it's fun to take a look back to remember how we got where we are today.

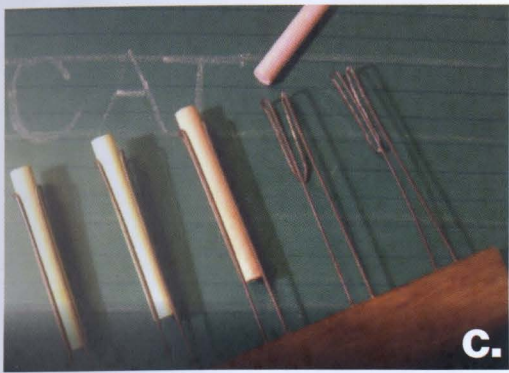
We've gathered a few items to take you back to your K-12 school days. (Some of you, that is.) What else do you remember?



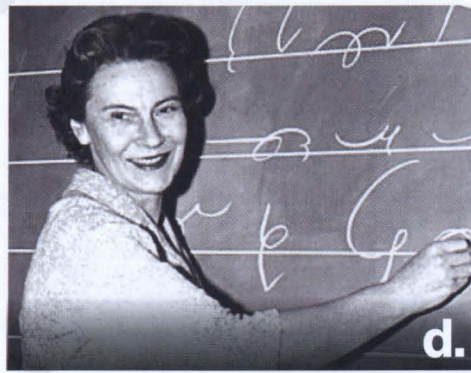
© National Film Board of Canada.



Courtesy: Twelvebytwelve.net



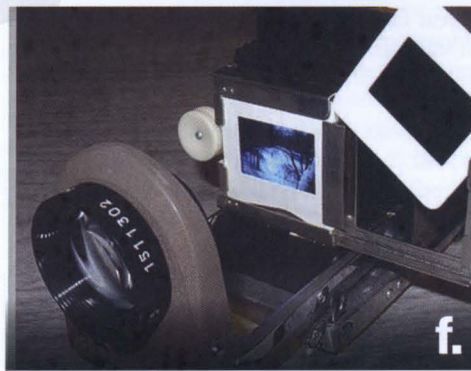
Courtesy: Etsy Home and Joy Shop.



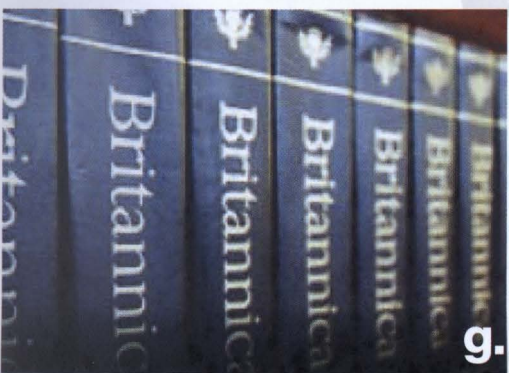
Courtesy: Northwestern Michigan College



Courtesy: Flickr



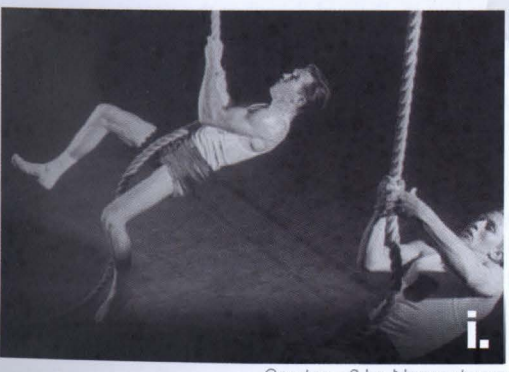
Courtesy: www.webdesignerdepot.com



Courtesy: Britannica



Courtesy: Mangodebango.tumblr.com



Courtesy: 3 bp.blogspot.com



Courtesy: zenohoto.heiserhollow.net

a. The Card Catalog System: Gone are the days of standing in front of hundreds of little drawers filled with thousands of index cards. Today, call numbers are online and books can be located in stacks with a few key strokes.

b. Cursive. While still taught in a limited number of classrooms, learning cursive has all but disappeared from classroom curriculum. At least 41 states do not require public schools to teach cursive reading or writing.

c. Vintage Chalk. Teachers used these tools for both writing and music lessons. As smartboards and white boards gradually replace chalkboards, you can find updated versions of these tools with slots for board-specific markers.

d. Shorthand. Personal computers, tablets and other portable keyboards have all but eliminated the need for this skill, yet shorthand, or stenography, classes are still available for those who want to be able to write 225 words per minute.

e. Home Economics. Today, home economics is often called family and consumer sciences. It's still taught in high schools, colleges and universities, but some of the original goals have fallen by the wayside. (djournal.com)

f. Slide Projectors (from single slide to carousel options) were ever-present in the classroom before the computer took over. In 2012, Kodak quit producing slide film altogether. Today, LCD projectors, some as small as the palm of your hand, can be found in classrooms and auditoriums across the globe.

g. Encyclopedias. Britannica and World Book were a student's go-to source of information for all report-writing. Today, both companies still produce printed books, but have expanded to online access, as well. And, of course, there is Google.

h. Typing Class. Today, typing takes place on computers. Gone are the days of machines jerking around the desk after a carriage return.

i. Rope Climbing in Gym Class. Two words: ROPE BURN.

j. Overhead Projectors. While overhead projectors haven't completely disappeared, many have been replaced by document cameras and the most recent adaptation, the 3D projector.

EIU, Local Students Take Part in Admissions Efforts



Derek Pierce decided to take matters in his own hands, again, this year.

The Mattoon native is tired of local students saying "It's Just Eastern." That's why the sophomore finance and accounting major at EIU organized another informational session to set the record straight. The session included an informal chat about common misconceptions and myths about Eastern and the collegiate experience.

"I know local students feel like they know everything about EIU," Pierce said. "Yet, once you are on (EIU's) campus, it's a completely different world behind the castle."

Pierce wasn't alone leading the session. Other EIU and Mattoon natives, including his friend, Luke Young, a sophomore finance major, joined him.

The session, which took place in October 2015, was the second session organized by Pierce and Young since 2014.

Both envision the chats materializing into a formal program as they train a new group of MHS graduates and EIU students to organize the sessions.

Like the MHS students, Pierce said he understands the tough decision ahead of each student as they make their college decision. That's why he brought along the EIU students from Mattoon.

"It is always nice to see the admissions representative come and talk, but it is different when you see someone you actually know come and talk," Pierce said.

Some of the EIU students who attended included students of different majors and interests.

For Pierce, the decision to choose EIU was based on great faculty and professors who care about their students, the opportunities to earn leadership roles and the affordable price.

In the sessions, he reassures students that they will find their place on campus. For Pierce, his place on campus is with his fraternity, Sigma Chi, and as a tour guide in the Admissions Office.

As a tour guide, Pierce said he has the easiest job on campus because he gets to share why he loves "his" university.

EIU Alumnus Finalist for Global Teacher Prize

EIU education alumnus Joe Fatheree has been selected as a finalist for the Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Prize.



The top 50 nominees have been shortlisted from 8,000 nominations and applications from 148 countries around the world. Only eight individuals on the list were from the United States, Fatheree included. The award, considered the Nobel Prize of teaching, will be announced in March 2016.

Fatheree started teaching 30 years ago after graduating from EIU with a bachelor's degree in 1989 and later a master's degree in 2005. As a multimedia instructor in Effingham, Fatheree helped create the popular CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) class that focuses on hands-on learning. The idea for the class came from realizing his students responded better to hands-on learning. The initial class has expanded to 30 cities.

"It is humbling to be acknowledged alongside the other 49 finalists," Fatheree said. "These men and women are world changers that are trying to elevate the teaching profession."

Fatheree was named Illinois Teacher of the Year in 2007 and was awarded the NEA's National Award for Teaching Excellence in 2009.

EIU Starts First Autism Transitional Program in State



To kick off the 2015-16 school year, Eastern's Autism Center started a transitional program for incoming college students with autism spectrum disorders to help students navigate the college environment. The program, called Students with Autism Transitional Education Program, STEP, is the only one of its kind offered in the state.

Gail Richard, the director of EIU's Autism Center, said the program enhances the collegiate

experience for students with autism spectrum disorders by providing assistance to students with the social, daily and academic skills they need to transition into college. Students with autism spectrum disorders have difficulties with social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors.

The STEP program is designed to minimize the challenges faced by these students once they leave home for the first time. "These are usually very bright individuals, yet they need structure and social skills," said Richard, who has worked with children with autism spectrum disorders for more than three decades.

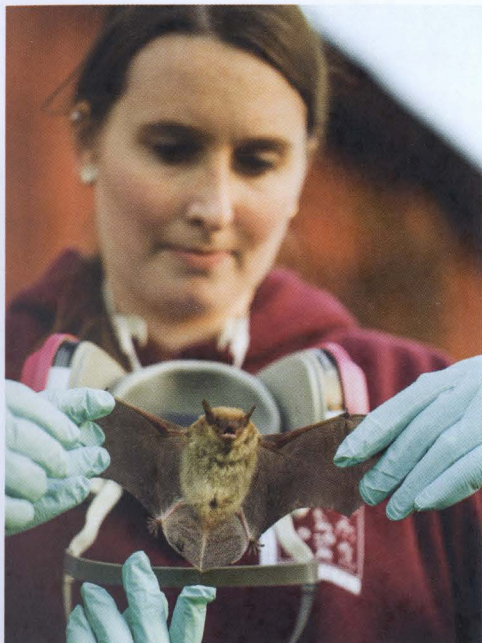
The program breaks down social barriers and gives students an opportunity to succeed, she said. Each student is assigned a mentor, who is a senior or graduate student in EIU's communication disorders and sciences program. The mentors will

personally help students navigate the university by taking them on tours of campus and to monthly social events such as theater productions or athletic events.

Students enrolled in the program had an early move-in date before the hustle and bustle of the school year started up, which helped with a calmer transition, Richard said. Students are also required to attend academic study tables and regular support groups throughout the school year. Study tables are located in the same residence hall that students live in. Richard describes the program as intensive and extensive with services and personal mentorship well beyond what is required of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The program is offered through EIU's Autism Center, which is an expansion of the Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic that serves families with children with autism spectrum disorders.

Habitat Loss a Possible Threat EIU Bat Research Provides Data as IDNR Establishes Management Plans



Those who enjoy an occasional shot of tequila may have a bat to thank.

"Many bat species are pollinators, mostly in tropical areas and a few in our southwestern states," said Jill Deppe, associate professor of biological sciences at Eastern. "They're essential to fruit production and a couple are known to pollinate the tequila (or blue agave) plzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz lean toward beetles, others to moths. Some are more generalists."

"There are reports that bats save billions of dollars annually in the United States by eating insects, including crop pests. If bats go away or disappear, food costs will increase."

Unfortunately, habitat loss, wind energy development and disease over the past few decades have already caused declines in the numbers of many North American bat species. Fortunately for Illinois, bats here, including the more common little brown bat, appear to be holding on -- at least for now, Deppe said.

Wildlife conservationists believe that by providing high quality habitat in protected areas throughout the state, they will contribute to the conservation of these populations. However, inventories of bats, including baseline data necessary for documenting population trends, as well as information on bat habitat requirements, are scarce for state parks and nature preserves. Thus, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources has made acquisition of basic data on bats in these protected areas a priority.

That's where Deppe and her students come in.

Thanks in part to IDNR monetary support in the amount of nearly \$2,000, EIU teams are able to inventory and research three state parks and nature preserves in Coles and Clark counties to collect baseline data on bat species composition and diversity, as well as quantify bat habitat associations. Inventory data is then shared with the IDNR to assist with management priorities.

Research in Deppe's lab aims to understand the factors explaining why species occur where and when they do, the patterns of animal movement in search of suitable conditions, and the consequences of movement and habitat selection on wildlife fitness and species distributions.

"Our bat inventory data will help establish management priorities and provide benchmark conditions for estimating population trends," she said. "Knowledge of bat species' habitat requirements will provide guidance in developing habitat management plans for bats in the DNR protected areas."

IDNR support is made possible through a grant from the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant Program, designed to preserve, protect, perpetuate and enhance non-game wildlife and native plant resources of Illinois through preservation of a satisfactory and ecologically balanced environment. Funds for this grant program are from the tax check-off offered on Illinois income tax returns.

Undergraduate Research Grants through the Department of Biological Sciences and other internal grants from Eastern Illinois University's College of Sciences and the Council on Faculty Research, also helped supplement funding for the project.

More on the story, as well as a related video highlighting Deppe's bat research, can be found at <http://bit.ly/EIUBats>



**To learn more about what is
happening across campus,
visit our online newsroom at:
castle.eiu.edu/media/**

EIU Ranked One of the Best Online Colleges in State

Eastern Illinois University has been ranked on two different lists as one of the best online colleges in Illinois for 2015.

On the lists, EIU outranks all of its state competitors including Illinois State University, Western Illinois University and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and Edwardsville.

The listings are called the "Most Affordable Online College in Illinois" and "Best Online Colleges in Illinois for 2015-2016."

Regis Gilman, EIU's dean of the School of Continuing Education, said online learning provides time and place-bound students with a convenient and flexible way to access higher education.

"Online learning provides our students with a rigorous and challenging academic experience with enriched discussions and lectures using discussion boards, Skype sessions and video lectures," Gilman said. "Like the general trend across higher education, online learning is becoming a growing part of instruction at Eastern Illinois University."

The rankings compared all schools in Illinois that offer online post-secondary education programs based on value and affordability. To view the rankings, go to www.onlinecolleges.net/illinois/ and www.affordablecollegesonline.org/online-colleges/

EIU currently offers three online college bachelor's degree programs and five hybrid master's degree programs. Hybrid programs require online coursework, but they also require a brief time on campus.

The bachelor degree programs include a bachelor of arts in general studies with an option in child care education, bachelor of science in organizational and professional development, and RN to bachelor of science in nursing.

Hybrid programs include a master of arts in art with an option in art education and community arts, master of arts in music with a concentration in music education, a master of science in communication disorders and sciences with speech-language pathology, and a master of science in family and consumer sciences and a master of arts in aging studies. All of EIU's online programs can be found at www.eiu.edu/adulted/offcampus.php.

EIU: Online!



According to OnlineColleges.net 2015 rankings, Eastern Illinois University provides some of the most affordable fully online degree programs in the state.

Bachelor of Arts in General Studies

Bachelor of Arts in General Studies, *Option in Child Care Education*

Bachelor of Science in Organizational and Professional Development

Master of Arts in Aging Studies

Master of Arts in Art - Art Education Option (*low-residency* program*)

Master of Arts in Art - Community Arts Option (*low-residency program*)

Master of Arts in Music - Music Education Concentration (*low-residency program*)

Master of Arts in Political Science - Public Administration (*Coming Soon*)

Master of Arts in Political Science - Public Policy (*Coming Soon*)

Master's in Business Administration (*Coming Soon*)

Master of Science in Communication Disorders and Sciences - *Speech-Language Pathology* (*low-residency program*)

Master of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences (*low-residency program*)

Master of Science in Health Promotion and Leadership (*Coming Soon*)

Professional Science Master's in Geographic Information Sciences (*Coming Soon*)

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Maybe that post-baccalaureate degree doesn't sound so daunting after all... maybe, it's just a click or two away: www.eiu.edu/adulted/offcampus.php

*A low-residency program allows students to complete classes from any location, using a combination of online coursework and brief, intermittent residential study. Requirements vary by program.

Like Mother, Like Daughter, Like Daughter



Eloise Buffenmeyer, Susan Friend and Jill Friend – mother, daughter and granddaughter, respectively – all graduated from EIU. What makes this connection distinctive is that they took the extra step to honor their special bond by creating a scholarship that will assist students in career and technology education (business education), recreation administration and special education, which were their areas of study at EIU. “My friends were planning to attend other universities after high school graduation,” said Jill Friend. “But I wanted to go to EIU because of the outstanding special education program.”

“We wanted to establish a scholarship at EIU because of its well-known programs and the faculty-student relationships that we all experienced and still have after all this time,” said Susan Friend. “I couldn’t believe how easy it was to customize this scholarship to honor our unique situation.”

They all love how this scholarship helps them stay connected with EIU, while assisting future students to focus on their education. “So many people in our family attended Eastern,” said Susan and her mother. “We’re just so grateful to be able to create this scholarship.”

A Very Special Lady



In memory of his mother, Tony Nelson of Springfield, Ill., recently established the Hope Brown Nelson Scholarship in Elementary Education at Eastern Illinois University. Mrs. Nelson was a teacher for many years in the Springfield schools until her retirement. She received her associate’s degree in education from EIU in 1934, married in 1938, and became a widow in 1943 after having two children. She moved her young family to Springfield and, while teaching full-time, commuted back and forth to Charleston to get her bachelor’s degree, which she earned in 1949. To honor her dedication to education and to create a lasting tribute to her memory, her son created this scholarship to help elementary education students focus on their student teaching so that they could fully immerse themselves in the student teaching experience to help them become outstanding teachers like Mrs. Nelson.

This scholarship is designed specifically to address the financial difficulty of the student teaching semester with all of its additional demands on students’ time (such as tutoring, coaching, grading, and attending conferences and performances.) “We lived in a coach house in Charleston near the EIU campus when I was very small and Mother was teaching at the EIU Laboratory School,” said Nelson. “I decided to donate the funds to endow this scholarship in memory of my mother in order to help students through their student teaching semester. I was surprised to learn that if you give a scholarship like this, the money will earn enough to provide students each year into perpetuity. The EIU Office of Development was very helpful.”

Honoring Family and Supporting New School Leaders



Charlie and Jan Rohn recently established a scholarship in the Department of Educational Leadership in honor of their family. “After Charlie retired from EIU, I wanted to surprise him so I created this scholarship,” Jan Rohn said. “He had worked for the EIU Office of Development helping other alumni and friends create scholarships, so why not one for him?”

They both wanted to help and encourage teachers to further their educations and become outstanding school leaders. “We need great educational leaders,” said Charlie Rohn. “Hopefully this scholarship will help identify and assist those students for a career in educational leadership.” His own career began as a teacher, which led to becoming a principal and superintendent. From there, he joined the faculty at EIU, became the department chair of educational leadership and, eventually, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies.

Jan Rohn earned a master’s degree from EIU, and their daughter earned her administrative certificate in the Department of Educational Leadership. Their grandchildren participate in EIU educational activities for children, so EIU traditions are knitted into the fabric of their family. They decided that they did not want to wait to establish the scholarship in their estate plan; they wanted to see the scholarship help students now. “I greatly enjoyed working with outstanding dedicated faculty at EIU,” said Charlie Rohn. “They were always focused on the welfare of students – both the EIU students and the generations of students that their EIU students would serve.”

CLASS NOTES

1960s

Daniel Selivonchick '65 retired as a professor from Oregon State University in 2005. He is on a faculty in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and Puebla, Mexico. He still goes there to teach.

Barbara (Shelton) Hundley '65

spent 40-plus years in higher education administration and teaching and serving as associate chancellor at the University of Illinois. She retired in 2007, marking the end of a 42-year career of being with students and touching the lives of thousands while teaching and serving on various boards for education and community organizations.

Robert Thomas '65 recently retired from the Board of Directors, Dixon Public Library, after almost 30 years of service. He and his wife celebrated 50 years of marriage on Aug. 8, 2015.



Mark Sorensen '69, official Macon County historian, received the Illinois State Historical Society Lifetime Achievement Award on April

25, 2015, in a ceremony in the House of Representatives' chamber of the Old State Capitol in Springfield. The award was presented during the annual ISHS awards to the state's best history teachers, authors and museum workers. A former Decatur history teacher, Sorensen retired from the Illinois State Archives after 20 years as assistant director. He has been active in the not-for-profit Illinois State Historical Society, where he recently served as president, for the past 25 years. He has served locally on Decatur's Historical and Architectural Sites Commission and on the board of the Governor Richard J. Oglesby Mansion Historic Site. He is currently secretary of the Decatur Public Library Board, and is assisting with the creation of the library's new local history room.

1970s

Ron Turzy '75, '76 is the new vice president of complex rehab for U.S. Rehab. In this role, he will work with the U.S. Rehab outcomes program and seek national complex rehab insurance contracts. He previously worked with Homelink and U.S. Rehab. "His background as a provider, as a national complex rehab provider, and in Homelink provides the necessary knowledge base for U.S. Rehab to accomplish our future goals," said Greg Packer, U.S. Rehab president. Turzy was formerly employed

as an area contracting manager by Numotion, a complex rehab technology supplier providing services in 42 states. He also was director of contracting and marketing for Rehab TECH Inc., and has more than 13 years in contracting, sales, marketing and upper management experience in the field of complex rehab technology and DME. He also worked for American Hospital Supply Corporation, Baxter Healthcare and Olsten in building business units.

1980s

Jeff Bloemker '84 was elected the mayor of Effingham, Ill., in the statewide consolidated election on April 7. He was sworn in on May 5. Bloemker will concurrently maintain the position of executive director at Heartland Human Services in Effingham.

John Wiscaver '86 was selected to serve as chief strategy officer and senior vice president of external affairs at Global-Health per an announcement from Chief Executive Officer Scott Vaughn. "John's exceptional leadership and industry knowledge means he is well prepared to help establish and execute our growth strategy into the future," Vaughn said. Wiscaver brings more than 20 years of experience in leading successful public affairs efforts in Oklahoma, and is considered an expert among peers in the insurance industry. He most recently served as the chief marketing officer and vice president of external affairs/marketing for Oklahoma Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Companies since 2011. Wiscaver is a member of the State Chamber of Oklahoma Board of Directors. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Regional Chamber, and is a trustee for the Tulsa Community College Foundation.

Kurt Gartner '86 will serve as the interim director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance at Kansas State University. Prior to joining the K State music faculty in 1999, he served for 10 years at Purdue University where he was associate professor of bands. He has served as associate director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, overseeing the music program, since the school was established in 2012.

Joseph Judd '87 opened a new store at 601 Monroe Ave. in Charleston. Bob's Bookstore is named after Judd's father, who was always supportive of him, Judd said. Judd previously owned and operated Myopic Books in Chicago -- a four-story bookstore still in operation today. "My father used to joke that it was

really his bookstore, so now we opened a bookstore called Bob's Bookstore. He doesn't have to feel guilty about 'stealing' any of the books," Judd said. The store carries a wide variety of books, from fiction to history, from biography to gardening. Judd wants the store to be a spot where students can hang out and study -- he's got coffee brewing, Wi-Fi, and study areas on both the ground floor and up in a loft.



Melissa Anne (Underwood) Morrissey '89 recently published her first book, "Shawna's Sparkle," addressing self-esteem in children. It's available from

Amazon in hardcover, paperback and Kindle, as well as from Barnes & Noble in hardcover and paperback.

1990s

Eileen Loftus '90 has been promoted to director of leisure services, effective June 1, 2015, after working for the Northbrook Park District (Northbrook, Ill.) for seven years. She spent 25 years working in the field of parks and recreation.



Lt. Col. David Dosier '92 retired in July after more than two decades of military service. He began his military career in 1987 when he enlisted in the Army Reserves as a

13B field artilleryman. He received his U.S. Army commission in the Aviation Branch as a graduate of the ROTC program at EIU in 1992. After flight training at Fort Rucker, Ala., Dosier was assigned as an aeroscout platoon leader at Fort Riley, Kan. Military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (three Oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (four Oak leaf clusters), the Army Achievement Medal (five Oak leaf clusters), the Canadian Chief of Defense Staff Commendation and the Airborne, Air Assault and Senior Aviator badges.

Jessica (Klimek) Donato '97 was chosen as the new business manager at Northbrook Elementary School District 28. Donato came to Northbrook from Lincolnwood Elementary School District 74, where she helped operate a three-school district with a \$25 million budget.

Jeremy M. Pelphrey '99, a partner in Fox Rothschild LLP's Los Angeles office,

has been named to The M&A Advisor's sixth annual "40 under 40" Emerging Leader Award Winners for 2015.

Jennifer Grommes '99 participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in Kenya. In Summer 2015, she studied sustainable approaches to human/wildlife coexistence at the Maasai Mara National Reserve in the South Rift Valley of Kenya. Grommes, a vet tech at Dundee Animal Hospital in South Elgin, Ill., took the graduate course in pursuit of her master's degree from Miami University's Advanced Inquiry Program.

2000s



Brandon Combs '03 was elected by the Charleston (Ill.) City Council on June 30, 2015, to fill the vacancy of the mayor following Larry Rennels' death the week before.

Combs was elected to the Charleston City Council in April 2013 and is serving his first four-year term. Combs received the "20 under 40" for Coles County award, which recognizes the top 20 individuals under the age of 40 who are making a difference in the community. In addition, he graduated from the Leadership Coles County classes, serves on the Charleston Trojan Booster Club Board of Directors, and is the president of the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce. Combs was born and raised in Charleston, and graduated from Charleston High School in 1999. After graduating from EIU, he attended Logan College of Chiropractic in Chesterfield, Mo., where he earned a second bachelor's degree in human biology and his doctor of chiropractic degree. He owns Combs Chiropractic & Wellness Center in Charleston.

Todd Haley '03, '12 has become the new NCOE (Norris City-Omaha-Enfield) principal. He has been teaching social studies at the NCOE district for seven years and although he will miss the classroom interaction with his students, he is ready to take on his new role as principal. Before making his choice to become a NCOE Cardinal, he was an educator for about three years at Fisher High School (in a town about 20 minutes away from Champaign), home of the Fisher Bunnies.



Andrea (Luna) Ellexson '05, an experienced educator who has been with Valley View School District 365U for more than

a decade, has been named principal of WSD's Secondary Transition Experience Program (S.T.E.P.). Ellexson joined the Valley View team in 2005 as a special education teacher, spending seven years with S.T.E.P. and the Valley View Early Childhood Center. She became student resource team leader at Romeoville High School in 2012 before moving into her current position for the 2013-2014 year.

2010s

Eric Wilber '10 worked extensively on EIU's Renewable Energy Center while

an undergraduate and then he pursued a law degree focusing on environmental law at Southern Illinois University. After working at the Pentagon and in the Executive Office of the President, he recently became a staff attorney for the USEPA Environmental Appeals Board, hearing administrative appeals for the environmental permitting and enforcement decisions.

Jamie Herget '12 participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in Borneo in Summer 2015. She studied model community-based efforts to preserve Bornean species along

the Kinabatangan River in Sabah (East Malaysia) on the island of Borneo. Herget, the education facilitator at Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, pursued her master's degree from Miami University's Global Field Program.

Stephanie Sorrentino '12, '14 would like to thank her EIU Communication Disorders and Sciences' Graduate Class of 2014 for their amazing support in her fight against multiple sclerosis.

Submit your own class
note for future issues of
ForeverEIU at
**www.eiu.edu/
alumni/
update.php**



MARRIAGES

Chelsey Byers '99, '04 and David Gerstenecker, May 23, 2015

Laney Grimes '03, '13 and Tyler Cruit, Aug. 29, 2015

Amy Harrington '05 and Jay Mann, June 6, 2015

Kurt Ramsey '05 and Kristina Snyder, April 25, 2015

Brendan Aydt '06, '10 and **Amanda Maxedon '07, '11**, June 13, 2015

Jonathon Fox '07 and Wendy Goode, July 25, 2015

Colby Alderman '08, '10 and Larissa Rentz, July 11, 2015

Michelle Burton '08 and Matthew Mangerson, July 11, 2015

Matthew Dasenbrock '09 and Shelby Spruell, June 27, 2015

Heather Erickson '09 and Jarrod Norman, June 26, 2015

Daren Herschberger '09 and Dolly Herschberger, April 25, 2015

Ashlei Weidhuner-Birch '09 and **David Shepherd '10**, March 27, 2015

Erin Duffield '10 and Steve Brodtko, July 25, 2015

Cassidy Klitzing '10 and **Zachary Lowry '13**, June 6, 2015

Sarah Gaines '11 and Aaron Young, April 2015

Emily Hecht '11 and Derek Hayden, July 25, 2015

Amy Pulley '11 and Kasey Minor, May 30, 2015

Phillip Stroik '11 and **Abigail Feldman '12**, June 13, 2015

Sara Whitaker '11 and Jason Simmons, Sept. 12, 2015

Kimberlee Lawrence '12 and Trey Ryan, June 17, 2015

Jenna Spitz '12 and **Matthew Dallas ex '12**, Jan. 3, 2015

Ronald Wirth Jr. '12 and **Jennifer Helm '13**, July 25, 2015

Jeffrey Wooten '12 and **Dawn Cheek '14**, July 14, 2015

Nichole Fonner '13 and Michael Epperson '14, June 6, 2015

Caitlin Niemczyk '13 and Jordan Carroll, July 18, 2015

Amber Reichard '13 and Joshua Hall, April 18, 2015

Amanda Rice '14 and Paolo Mendez, July 4, 2015

Jenny Buxton '11 and Bradford Rau, May 31, 2014

Christa Huxel '11 and Seth Hudson, Nov. 8, 2014

Kayleigh Zyskowski '11 and William Rahn, June 21, 2014

Kelsey Brandt '12, '14 and **Austin Cripe '13**, June 14, 2014

Alexandra Kuhn '12 and **Dillon Dorsett '13**, July 19, 2014

Clayton Murphy '12 and **Kirsty Slabach '12**, June 21, 2014

Jay Nottingham '12 and **Kristin Runde '12, '13**, May 24, 2014

Jessica Riley '12 and Andrew Hill, March 22, 2014

Christopher Emken '13 and **Jennifer Clinton '13**, Aug. 2, 2014

Kelsey Parks '13 and Aaron Cox, June 7, 2014

Christa Phillips '13 and Patrick Tomczewski, April 26, 2014

Jordan Stahly '13 and Joseph Harcharick, Oct. 11, 2014

Kacie Stout '13 and Tyler Lang, July 26, 2014

Tara Worman '13 and Marc Hooten, March 1, 2014

Brittney St. John '14 and Tyler Johns, Sept. 27, 2014

Andrea Tarquini '14 and **Jonathan Rossi '11**, March 30, 2015

Kyle Whitcher '14 and Dani Dell'Orco, Nov. 1, 2014

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Katherine (Love) Dillon '35, Glen Carbon, Ill., March 29, 2015

Gwendolyn (Oliver) Borah '37, Springfield, Ill., Sept. 18, 2015

Lowell Eugene Brown '37, Redwood City, Calif., May 31, 2015

Mabel Irene (Thiel) Shumaker '37, Mount Pulaski, Ill., Jan. 23, 2015

Maytlee Marie Harris '39, Clay City, Ill., Aug. 5, 2015

Edna E. (Davidson) Schwartz '40, Marshall, Ill., May 24, 2015

Margaret Nylene (Long) Ward '40, Danville, Ill., April 14, 2015

Betty Margaret (Lewis) Ebe '44, Austin, Texas, April 23, 2015

Rosemary (McGee) Flynn '44, Poplar Grove, Ill., April 20, 2015

Phillip E. Ayers '49, Jacksonville, Ill., Aug. 5, 2015

Lillis June (Sperleder) McCain '49, Shelbyville, Ill., April 22, 2015

Louis Stivers Jr. '49, '54, Charleston, Ill., Aug. 30, 2015

William B. Snodgrass '50, Waukegan, Ill., July 11, 2015

Billy "Bill" Gene Wood '50, Mesa, Ariz., Sept. 20, 2015

Richard Grant Riggins '51, Warrensburg, Mo., May 24, 2015

Charles Richard Thomas '51, Cookeville, Tenn., Aug. 23, 2015

Sara Jean J. (Jones) Winter '53, '60, Arcola, Ill., Sept. 9, 2015

Vivian "Vicki" Juanita (Nelson) Sinclair '53, '68, St. Elmo, Ill., June 18, 2015

Donald L. Calvinex '54, Shelter Island Heights, N.Y., July 9, 2015

John B. Waggoner '54, Shorewood, Ill., May 4, 2015

Joseph "Joe" R. Cates '55, Springfield, Ill., Aug. 2, 2015

Harold Jay Bush '56, Oakland Park, Fla., May 21, 2015

Howard Carl Etchason '57, '61, Mattoon, Ill., June 5, 2015

Edward L. Dever '58, Charleston, Ill., June 29, 2015

Monte Neal Groothuis '58, Effingham, Ill., May 9, 2015

Michael Joseph Harvey '58, Cookeville, Tenn., June 30, 2015

Joan Ruth (Lundy) Pound '58, Sullivan, Ill., July 5, 2015

Laura Lou Sawyer '58, Chicago, Ill., April 25, 2015

IN MEMORIAM

Larry G. Ballinger '59, The Villages, Fla., July 10, 2015
 Beverley Y. (Potter) Jansen '59, Quincy, Ill., May 14, 2015
 James J. Monge '59, Bloomington, Ill., April 11, 2015
 Don E. Stillwell '59, Auburn, Ill., Aug. 29, 2015
 Thomas E. Stuckey '59, Springfield, Ill., Aug. 5, 2015
 Jack K. Hatfield '60, Savoy, Ill., June 11, 2015
 Kenneth Harold Koehn '60, Normal, Ill., Sept. 3, 2015
 Jon Mason Sams '60, Metropolis, Ill., May 2, 2015
 Karen Marie (Wolf) Pitcher '61, Montrose, Ill., July 2, 2015
 Richard M. Scott '61, Charleston, Ill., April 25, 2015
 Genelle (Moody) Troll '61, Kansas, Ill., May 4, 2015
 Vito "Vic" Peitro Provinzano '62, '82, Effingham, Ill., April 23, 2015
 Fred E. Hayes '63, Marshall, Ill., April 22, 2015
 Dick E. Parker '64, Marshall, Ill., Oct. 6, 2015
 Leo William Fever '64, '67, Columbia, Ill., Sept. 19, 2015
 Richard Allan Oppman '64, '70, Chesterton, Ind., April 19, 2015
 Rebecca Ann Aten '65, '70, Ottawa, Ill., June 10, 2015
 Connie Carol (Fearington) Brosi '65, '70, Berea, Ky., June 27, 2015
 Tad Heminger '66, Franklin, Ind., March 27, 2015
 Dolores Ann (Hopkins) Hodge '66, Dekalb, Ill., Aug. 29, 2015
 Dana Lynnette (Crews) Rubly '66, Willowbrook, Ill., Aug. 9, 2015

Robert Wayne Sherwood '66, Charleston, Ill., Sept. 25, 2015
 David Wayne Glover '67, '71, Decatur, Ill., June 12, 2015
 Frank Anthony Hummel ex '67, Saint Augustine, Fla., May 14, 2015
 Dennis Michael Franks '68, San Juan Capistrano, Calif., July 30, 2015
 Barbara Rae (Kappel) Moran '68, Chicago, Ill., May 30, 2015
 Timothy Albert Drew '69, Wilton Manors, Fla., June 25, 2015
 Linda Jo Hoover '69, Tuscola, Ill., June 11, 2015
 Nancy Charlene (Miller) Rennels '69, Charleston, Ill., Sept. 15, 2015
 Elnor Margaret (Uncapher) Biggs '70, Westfield, Ill., June 8, 2015
 Kenneth Andrew Pries '70, Frankfort, Ill., Sept. 3, 2015
 Mary Beth (Boyer) Smith '70, Kansas City, Mo., May 31, 2015
 Michael Kent Wilson '70, Greenview, Ill., Sept. 6, 2015
 John Charles Erdmann '71, Belleville, Ill., July 29, 2015
 Harry L. Gollier '71, Sedalia, Mo., Aug. 20, 2015
 Lena Elizabeth (Pickowitz) Thull '71, North Fort Myers, Fla., Jan. 30, 2015
 Lola Lucille (Cottingham) Woodfall '71, Charleston, Ill., June 13, 2015
 Kathleen "Kathy" S. (Copenbarger) Bonham '72, Arthur, Ill., Sept. 6, 2015
 Douglas Neil Easton '72, Decatur, Ill., May 9, 2015
 Charles William Kemmer '72, Thawville, Ill., May 29, 2015
 Leslie D. Wilson '72, Toledo, Ill., Aug. 3, 2015
 Ronald O. Ray '73, Sidney, Ill., April 13, 2015
 Anthony Ward Blackwell '74, Chicago, Ill., June 1, 2015

Ted E. Crump '74, Rhinelander, Wis., April 24, 2015
 Susan Clare (Bybee) Hoaglund '74, Fort Wayne, Ind., Aug. 5, 2015
 William D. Mullen '74, Mattoon, Ill., May 19, 2015
 William "Bill" L. Rotz Jr., '74, Decatur, Ill., May 29, 2015
 Alan G. Ryle '74, Champaign, Ill., Oct. 2, 2015
 Kathryn L. Dagon '75, Hillsboro, Ill., April 13, 2015
 Gerald Lee Dart '75, Baldwin, Mo., July 7, 2015
 Genelle Vernadean (Chappell) Fleener '75, Lovington, Ill., Aug. 8, 2015
 Terrence "Terry" W. Thomas '75, Fremont, Mich., May 8, 2015
 Michael L. Shehorn '75, '76, Antioch, Ill., Feb. 13, 2015
 Diane Jeanine (Pavlik) Carr '76, Marion, Ill., Oct. 4, 2015
 Harry Mark Hermes '77, Wausau, Wis., Sept. 3, 2015
 Nancy A. (Burk) Moore '77, Dawson, Ill., Aug. 16, 2015
 Carol M. (Sukowatey) Sanders '77, Colorado Springs, Colo., May 10, 2015
 Yvonne Marie (Bricout) Talbott '77, Casey, Ill., July 4, 2015
 Donald O. Weckhorst '77, '80, Paxton, Ill., June 13, 2015
 Kathleen Jo (Holloway) Armstrong '78, Arcola, Ill., June 2, 2015
 Jerry P. Faulkenberry '78, North Charleston, N.C., July 5, 2015
 Elicia C. (Turner) Henderson '78, Flora, Ill., April 10, 2015
 Toni Anne Cole '79, Carrboro, N.C., Sept. 18, 2015
 Joan A. Deters '80, Flanagan, Ill., Aug. 2, 2015

Kenneth Lee Dwyer '82, Brownston, Minn., May 10, 2015
 Lori L. (Gill) Conner '83, Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 3, 2015
 June A. (Cardell) Cooper '83, Charleston, Ill., June 7, 2015
 Robert Curtis Mabry '83, St. Charles, Ill., July 26, 2015
 Andrew "Andy" B. Sudkamp '83, Everett, Wash., Aug. 4, 2015
 Joseph Weston Fortner '85, Springfield, Ill., Sept. 15, 2015
 Thomas R. Vose '85, Springfield, Ill., May 5, 2015
 David Michael Brubaker '85, '86, Charleston, Ill., Aug. 11, 2015
 John M. Boma '87, Crescent City, Ill., July 16, 2015
 Charles A. Hodgson '87, Peoria, Ill., March 2, 2015
 Geneva Ray (Abbott) Haluzak '88, Mahomet, Ill., Aug. 18, 2015
 Amy Ann Erickson-Pipes '89, Danville, Ill., July 23, 2015
 Maria "Lupita" Guadalupe Linares '92, Hoopeston, Ill., May 22, 2015
 Brian Scott Akers '94, '99, Lake in the Hill, Ill., May 13, 2015
 Joshua Calvin Paul '95, O'Fallon, Ill., May 14, 2015
 Elizabeth "Liz" Ann (Wyatt) Newlin '98, Yale, Ill., April 16, 2015
 Lauren E. Bovis '01, La Grange Park, Ill., Sept. 2, 2015
 Joanna Gehl Glombowski '01, Mt. Prospect, Ill., May 18, 2015
 Mark Thomas Vail '03, Highland, Ind., April 17, 2015
 Christina L. (Suhl) Sanders '07, '13, Sullivan, Ill., July 2, 2015
 Jessica Lynn (Ribando) Dopka, '09, Elk Grove Village, Ill., Jan. 18, 2015

IN MEMORIAM, FACULTY AND STAFF

Patricia Barnhart, Springfield, Ill., Sept. 9, 2015
Former Professor
 Camille Compo, Mattoon, Ill., June 20, 2015
Former Administrative Assistant, VP for External Affairs
 Janet Cornelius, Penfield, Ill., Sept. 19, 2015
Former Continuing Ed Instructor

Donald Farber, Charleston, Ill., April 17, 2015
Former Extra Help Clerical
 Vincent Gutowski, Charleston, Ill., Oct. 5, 2015
Former Geography/Geology Professor
 Mildred Michael, Charleston, Ill., Aug. 28, 2015
Assistant Manager, EIU Union Bookstore

Betty Muller, Scottsdale, Ariz., Sept. 29, 2015
Former Physical Education Professor
 Robert Webb, Mattoon, Ill., Oct. 5, 2015
EIU Board of Trustees
 Wesley Whiteside, Charleston, Ill., July 18, 2015
Former Botany Professor

Ira Yarbrough Jr., Mahomet, Ill., Aug. 17, 2015
Former Graphic Designer

Alumni Gather Across Illinois



EIU and Lake Land



EIU President David Glassman (left) and Lake Land Community College President Jonathan "Josh" Bullock spoke to alumni and staff at a joint reception at Mattoon Country Club.



Cubs vs. Cards at Wrigley



More than 200 alumni attended EIU's annual Cubs vs. Cards outing at Wrigley Field in Chicago. Alan Zuber '78, '83, (standing above), Alumni Association Board member from Paris, Ill., might have been the loudest Cards fan there.



Gary Davis and Ramona Davis '03



Left: Duncan McHugh '79, '83 and Patricia McHugh '86



EIU v. Northwestern



Top, left to right: VP of University Advancement Bob Martin, EIU President David Glassman, and alumni Jack Pine '64 and Vickie Burke '72, '75.



Right, left to right: Mike Murray, Interim Dean (The Grad School) Ryan Hendrickson, and alumni Norm Plummer '71, '72 and Tim McCollum '73, '77.



Coles County Clash



Above: Ben Pertl '14, Charlie Schuster '89, Billy, Harold Wilson '99, Scott Wilson '93, Suzi Schuster '91, Sonya Schuette '96, '97



Right: Community members stop to take pictures with Billy.



Mark Your Calendars

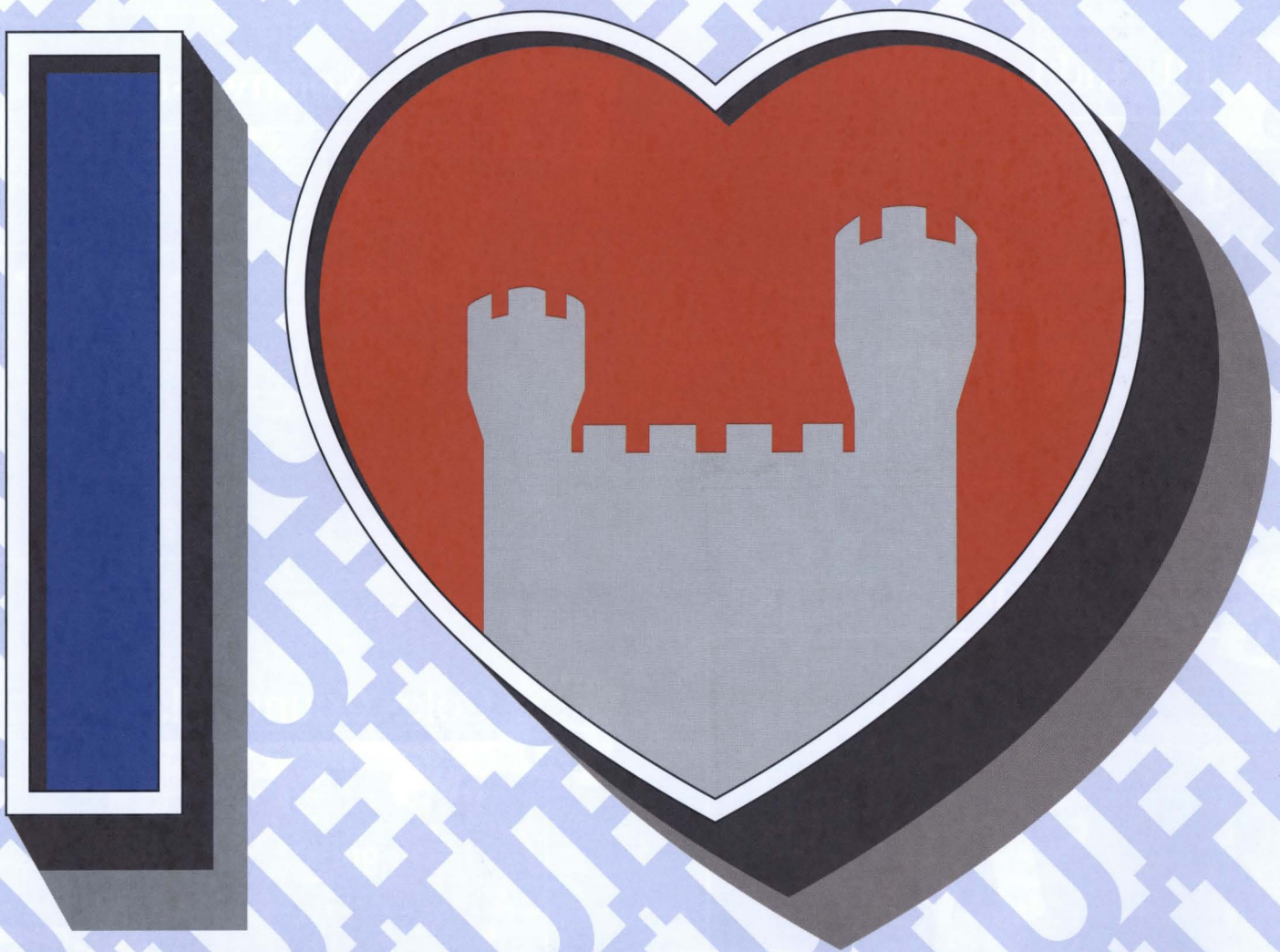
Feb. 20: Phoenix/Scottsdale Reception
Meet EIU's 12th sitting president, David Glassman

March 12: Naples, Fla. Reception
Meet EIU's 12th sitting president, David Glassman

Visit our website for more events TBD for Spring and Summer!

- Annual St. Louis Cards Game
- Annual Chicago Cubs Game
- Effingham Social
- New York City Social
- Springfield Reception
- Charleston Mystery Dinner Theater

www.eiu.edu/alumni



ETU

#FOREVER EIU

Tear out and display your EIU pride...or share with a #FUTUREPANTHER!

"I will always be #ForeverEIU."

By Carrie Berger '89

#ForeverEIU...or...#FuturePanthers. I love the 21st-century version of EIU.

Back in the day, it was all about Billy. And now, Billy is being reintroduced to future students in a new way.

I grew up being told and, just knowing, that I would attend college. I went on many college visits and I could not find the love or the fit – until I visited EIU. The feeling of comfort and security instantly filled me. I enrolled with the intent of majoring in elementary education.

Thirty years ago, I moved into Carman (fifth floor) with the need and expectation to "grow up" and get smarter. The following year, I moved into Taylor, still needing to grow up and get smarter. My last two years I lived in a house off campus, getting older and smarter.

I lived EIU!

Thanks to my EIU education, I graduated and moved right into a teaching job. (EIU, you should be so proud that you produced and trained a loyal and dedicated career-ready individual.) Who would of thought that 26 years later, I would be in the same district, and the same school, fulfilling my dream and passion for teaching? I used my minor in early childhood education to teach kindergarten and my elementary education degree to teach third and fourth grade.

Today, I relive my EIU college experience with my students. EIU pennants hang on my wall. Posters decorate my door. I wear EIU gear to school. I write with EIU pencils and I use EIU bookmarks to mark my reading. All with the intent to promote college at a young age.

Truth be told, I lost my EIU spirit when I left campus, which many students do because society says you have to live a grown-up life after graduation. When Common Core came along and suggested we promote "college and career-ready" students, my EIU spirit came back fiercely and I reached out to EIU to partner with my classroom. University Marketing and Creative Services welcomed me back with open arms and the chance to tap into my tucked-away memories of EIU. And, here we are – college matched with elementary students, all with the same mission: to educate.

I will always be "#ForeverEIU." I will always "#BleedBlue." And..."#GoPanthers!"

If you'd like to share the EIU love, contact EIU Marketing and Creative Services at forevereiumag@eiu.edu.

Carrie (pictured above left) and her group of #FUTUREPANTHERs show off their cool EIU gear!



I Hope i can
the same college go to
Guy's as you

I Love Eastern

Dear EIU,
Thank you for all
of the stuff on the
door. I hope you
could send us back
more. Because I
love to read. Do you do
a lot of reading? I
hope so. I hope you
will go to the college
to study to become a
teacher. I think you

Eastern Illinois
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL
61912

Dear EIU,
Thank you
for giving us
pencils, posters,
stickers and a
pennant. Thank you,
Patsie

Eastern Illinois
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL
61912

Poster
sticker





600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, Illinois 61920-3099

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visit us online: www.eiu.edu/alumni

